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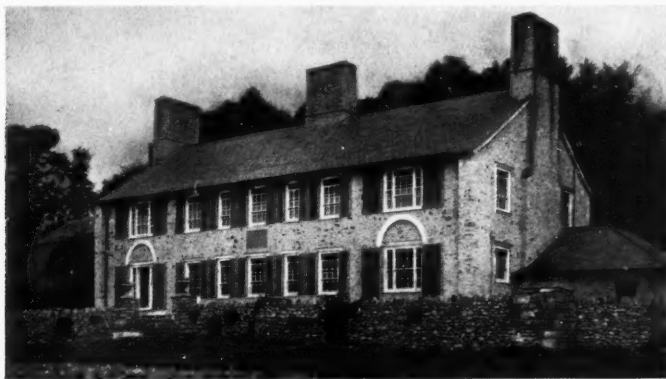
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bedrooms; near a good town
TROUT FISHING ESSENTIAL.
Replies to "Northern Merchant."

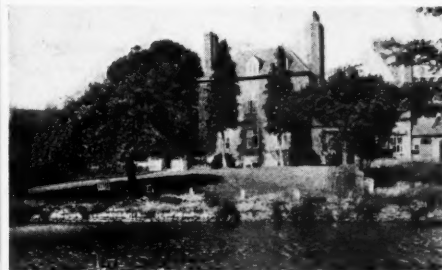
GOOD HUNTING DISTRICT
WANTED in, say, Oxon, Glos, Wilts, Somerset
or Dorset, near a good town,
A SMALL PROPERTY
of 20-30 acres, with an up-to-date House of about
ten bedrooms, cottage and good stabling.
£6,000
or so will be paid for a suitable property.
Replies to "Sportsman."

Will OWNERS or their AGENTS wishing to dispose of Properties answering the above requirements send full details and photographs to Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, who will be pleased to give, in confidence, any further details in regard to their enquiries. Likely places will be inspected immediately.

OXFORDSHIRE



Excellent social district, short drive of County Town.
For SALE, this picturesque old
STONE-BUILT HOUSE
occupying a sheltered position high up on sandy soil. It is
approached by a carriage drive with lodge at entrance and
contains
Three reception. Billiard room. Ten bedrooms, etc.
Company's water and gas. Telephone.
Garage with rooms over, good stabling and buildings.
Secluded gardens and pasture extending to about
THIRTEEN ACRES.
Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,091.)



A SUSSEX GEM
Right off the beaten track and about
TEN MILES FROM THE COAST.
FASCINATING LITTLE FREEHOLD
of about
50 ACRES.
About half pasture, the remainder picturesque woodland and
heather.
CHARMING SMALL HOUSE,
originally an old farmhouse, on which large sums have been
spent.
Three reception, six bedrooms, two bathrooms.
Electric light. Telephone. Modern drainage.
Enjoyable but inexpensive grounds, picturesque old Mill
House, with stream and waterfall.
Personally inspected by the **SOLE AGENTS, Messrs.**
OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,117.)

YORKSHIRE
In a beautiful district amongst the moors.
TO BE LET, UNFURNISHED, for a term of years,
VERY ATTRACTIVE HOUSE,
facing south, and containing four reception rooms, eleven
bedrooms, bathroom, etc.
Cottage. Stabling. Garage.
Delightful but inexpensive gardens.
3,000 ACRES OF SHOOTING
with well-placed coverts can be included.
Near to a well-known golf course.
Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (7926.)

GLOS AND HEREFORD BORDERS
In the Ledbury Hunt and near good Market Town.
DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE,
recently modernised by the installation of
Electric light. Central heating. Telephone.
Three reception rooms, nine bedrooms, bathroom, etc.
RANGE OF MODEL BUILDINGS.
GARAGE. THREE COTTAGES.
Charming garden and some excellent pasture of about
40 ACRES.
Low price with possession.
Inspected by Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER. (15,114.)

BY ORDER OF MRS. BAINBRIDGE.

"ELFORDLEIGH," PLYMPTON, SOUTH DEVON

In a favourite district a short distance from
the coast, and four hours from London.

WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE,
occupying a fine situation on
HIGH GROUND WITH SOUTH ASPECT.

Four reception rooms, eighteen bed
and dressing rooms, three bathrooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE.
UNLIMITED WATER SUPPLY.

Exceptional gardens and grounds planted with
many rare trees and shrubs.



HOME FARM WITH MODEL BUILDINGS.
SEVERAL COTTAGES.

TWO LONG CARRIAGE DRIVES.
WELL PLACED WOODLANDS
providing good shooting: the whole extending
to about
300 ACRES.

and has been thoroughly well maintained.
For SALE by AUCTION by Messrs.

OSBORN & MERCER
(in conjunction with Messrs. VINER CAREW
and Co., of Plymouth), during the coming
season (unless Sold Privately).—Solicitors,
Messrs. HEWLETT & Co., 2, Raymond Build-
ings, Gray's Inn, W.C. 1.



BUCKS
ON A FRINGE OF THE CHILTERN HILLS.
TO BE SOLD, a fine
OLD QUEEN ANNE HOUSE
fully modernised and offering every convenience.
Lounge hall, four reception rooms,
eleven bed and dressing rooms,
three bathrooms, servants' hall, etc.
SPLENDID STABLING. SMALL FARMERY.
LARGE GARAGE WITH FLAT OVER.
Matured shady gardens of great beauty, together with well-
timbered pasture of nearly
30 ACRES.
GOOD HUNTING. CLOSE TO GOLF.
Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (15,115.)

45 MILES FROM TOWN
NEAR EXCELLENT YACHTING.
FOR SALE, a Freehold Residential Property of
50 ACRES,
chiefly well-timbered parkland with this
HANDSOME GEORGIAN HOUSE,
containing three reception, nine bedrooms, bathroom, etc.
Company's water. Telephone. Lighting.
Ample stabling, garage, etc.; matured pleasure grounds.
£4,000.
Agents, Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (M 1386.)



BERKS (HANTS BORDERS).—Charming old HOUSE
of the Farmhouse type, recently converted and
modernised; lounge hall, four reception, seven
bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, etc.;
garage, stabling and capital cottage, together
with some nicely timbered grounds and meadow-
land. (M 1374.)

SUSSEX (between Tunbridge Wells and Eastbourne).—
Well-built modern HOUSE, containing three
reception, six bedrooms, bathroom, etc.;
central heating, telephone; large garage;
well laid-out gardens, orchard, kitchen garden
and grassland; in all about **FOUR ACRES.**
(M 1387.)

NORTH OF TOWN
Two miles from a Market Town; one hour from London.
HUNTING with two Packs, and near to GOLF.
THE RESIDENCE,
of five reception, sixteen bed and dressing rooms, etc., stands
about 500ft. up with magnificent views in
A **FINELY-TIMBERED PARK**
of great natural beauty, in which are two sheets of ornamental
water. The approach is by two long carriage drives through
AVENUES OF CEDARS AND WELLINGTONIA. Forest
and ornamental trees adorn the **PLEASURE GROUNDS** and
GARDENS, large walled kitchen and fruit garden; stabling
for ten, two garages; several cottages in addition to the two
lodges.
TWO FARMS and extensive woodland; in all about
1,200 ACRES.
Price and full particulars on application. (14,891.)

OSBORN & MERCER, "ALBEMARLE HOUSE" 28b, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, W.1.

Telephone: Regent 7500.
Telegrams:
"Solent, Piccy, London."

HAMPTON & SONS

(For continuation of advertisements see pages vi. and xxiv.)

Branches: **Wimbledon**
"Phone 0080
Hampstead
"Phone 2727



HERTS

About five minutes' walk from station.
THE VERY ATTRACTIVE AND COMPACT FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY,

"CULVER," MUCH HADHAM.

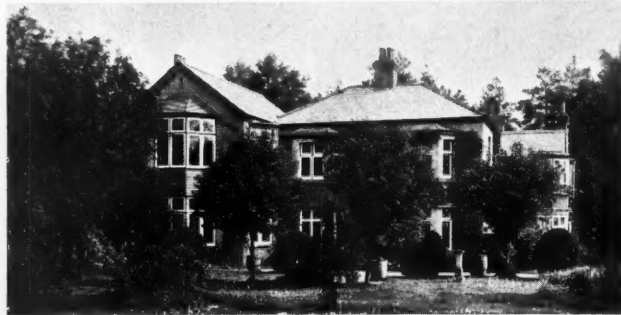
Nearly 200ft. up, pleasant position, fine open views.
THE COMFORTABLE HOUSE contains lounge and inner halls, two or three reception rooms, two staircases, eleven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, and domestic offices; own electric light, Company's gas and water, main drainage, telephone; cottage, garages and small farmery.

LOVELY OLD-ESTABLISHED PLEASURE GROUNDS, WOOD AND PARKLAND; in all about

35 ACRES. WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

To be SOLD by AUCTION, at the St. James' Estate Rooms, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1, on Tuesday, May 1st, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously Sold).
Solicitors, Messrs. LONGMORES, 24, Castle Street, Hertford.—Particulars from the Auctioneers.

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.



HANTS

IN THE PINE AND HEATHER COUNTRY.

Absolute seclusion, near railway station and close to Branshott Golf Course.

THE ATTRACTIVE AND COMFORTABLE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE,

"WOODSIDE," GUILDFORD ROAD, FLEET.

Pleasant and secluded position, about 250ft. up, well away from main road.

Square hall, four reception rooms, two staircases, nine bedrooms, two bathrooms, and offices; Company's gas and water, electric light available; garage and stable. DELIGHTFUL PLEASURE GROUNDS, with tennis lawn, orchard, kitchen garden, etc.; in all over TWO-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES. Part offering site for another house. WITH VACANT POSSESSION.

To be SOLD by AUCTION, at the St. James' Estate Rooms, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1, on Tuesday, March 27th, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously Sold).

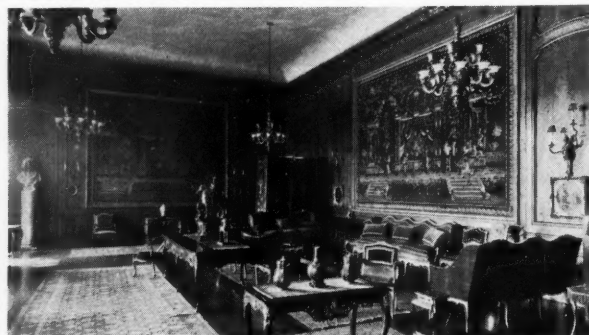
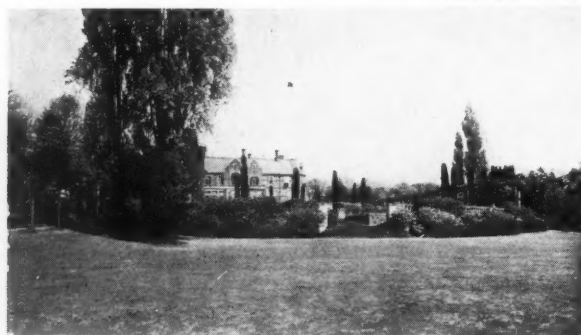
Solicitors, Messrs. TREHERNE, HIGGINS & CO., 21, Bloomsbury Square, W.C. 1.
Particulars from the Auctioneers.
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.

IN THE BEAUTIFUL COOMBE WARREN

FACING THE COOMBE WOOD GOLF COURSE; COOMBE HILL COURSE CLOSE BY; ABOUT ONE-AND-A-HALF MILES FROM STATION; 20 MINUTES BY CAR FROM TOWN.

THE VERY CHARMING AND EXCEEDINGLY WELL-PLACED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY,
"COOMBE COURT," COOMBE WARREN, KINGSTON HILL.

Unique position, high up with wonderful south views.



THE DISTINCTIVE AND WELL-APPOINTED HOUSE, approached by carriage sweep, contains handsome suite of entertaining rooms, grand staircase, nineteen bedrooms, seven bathrooms and complete domestic offices.

CENTRAL HEATING. OWN ELECTRIC LIGHT. COMPANY'S GAS AND WATER. MAIN DRAINAGE.
Two lodges. Cottage. Stabling. Garages. Heated glasshouses.

STATELY TERRACED GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS, KITCHEN GARDEN AND ORCHARD; IN ALL ABOUT 21 ACRES.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, AT THE ST. JAMES' ESTATE ROOMS, 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE, S.W. 1, ON TUESDAY, MAY 8TH, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously Sold).

Particulars and conditions of Sale from the Auctioneers, Messrs. TURNER, LORD & DOWLER, 127, Mount Street, W. 1; and
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.



DELIGHTFULLY PLACED ON THE SURREY HILLS

Few minutes Kenley Station, 30 minutes City and West End.
Situate on high ground enjoying quiet and pleasant surroundings with beautiful views towards Riddlesdown Common.

FOR SALE, this attractive and well-built RESIDENCE in first-rate order, containing, on two floors, entrance hall, two reception rooms, eight bed and dressing rooms, bathroom and compact offices.

COMPANY'S WATER. GAS. ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE.
CENTRAL HEATING.

Excellent brick-built stabling. Garage with large loft.
THE PICTURESQUE GROUNDS, nicely timbered, include tennis lawn, clock golf lawn, rockeries, kitchen garden and numerous fruit trees; in all about ONE-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES.

MODERATE PRICE.

Inspected and strongly recommended by
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (S 35,139A.)



WEST SUSSEX

Within a short drive of the coast.

FOR SALE, AT AN ENORMOUS SACRIFICE, a delightful GEORGIAN HOUSE, probably one of the best built in the country; charmingly situated in a park of

50 ACRES.

Exceedingly nice suite of reception rooms, facing south or south-west, and of good proportions; six principal bedrooms, nursery wing of four rooms, five single maids' rooms, two baths, magnificent stone staircase.

Company's gas, water, electric light, central heating.

Stabling and garages with rooms for married men; lodge, three cottages.

OLD-WORLD GROUNDS of a most charming nature, beautifully timbered and shrubbed, overlooking finely timbered parkland; tennis and other lawns, walled-in kitchen garden, etc.

Unquestionably the cheapest Property with a house of character in the market to-day.

Apply to SOLE AGENTS,
HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (C 41,421.)

Offices: 20, ST. JAMES' SQUARE, S.W. 1

Telephone:
Grosvenor 1400 (2 lines).

CURTIS & HENSON

LONDON.

Telegrams:
"Submit, London."



TUNBRIDGE WELLS

ONE MILE FROM STATION, 45 minutes from City and West End.

In one of the highest and best residential parts of this popular inland health resort. 450ft. above sea level. Sandy soil.

ADJACENT TO LARGE AREAS OF COMMONLANDS.

DELIGHTFUL OLD - WORLD PERIOD HOUSE, dating from the XVIIIth century and rich in historical associations, approached by a carriage drive and containing

FOUR RECEPTION. TWELVE BEDROOMS. TWO BATHROOMS.

CO.'S ELECTRIC LIGHT, GAS AND WATER. MAIN DRAINAGE. TELEPHONE.

Stabling and garages, cottage. **UNUSUALLY BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND PLEASURE GROUNDS**, old turf lawns for croquet and tennis, magnificent trees and shrubs, cedar of Lebanon 700 years old, productive kitchen garden, glasshouses and paddock; in all

ABOUT FIVE ACRES.

PRICE MODERATE.

Inspected and strongly recommended by the **SOLE AGENTS, CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.**

BY DIRECTION OF COL. H. A. VERNON, D.S.O.

STOKE BRUERNE PARK (NEAR NORTHAMPTON).

THE DECORATIVE FURNITURE, OIL PAINTINGS, SPORTING PRINTS AND MEZZOTINTS,

Including OLD ENGLISH PORTRAITS and NAVAL SUBJECTS, oak and walnut dining tables, Sheraton tallboy, old Flemish chests, cabinets and bookcases, FRENCH COMMODE CHESTS, and exceptional Queen Anne lacquer cupboards and old English painted chairs; OLD NORMANDY ARMOIRE, books, telescopes, weapons and ornamental objects, carpets, curtains, linen, garden furniture, two life-size marble statues, etc., etc.

CURTIS & HENSON, having Sold the Estate, will **SELL** the above by **AUCTION** on the premises on Thursday, March 15th and following day, at 12.30 each day. Private view, Tuesday, the 13th inst. Public view, Wednesday, the 14th inst.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, 5, Mount Street, London, W. 1.

PYTCHLEY COUNTRY

600FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL. GRAVEL SOIL. EXTENSIVE VIEWS.

BEAUTIFUL OLD GABLED HOUSE, dated 1685, built of old brown stone mellowed by time; containing many old-world period characteristics; secluded position amidst delightful grounds; carriage drive, three reception, ten bedrooms, three bathrooms; electric light, central heating, telephone, ample water, modern drainage; stabling, garage; large detached room; attractive grounds, including croquet and tennis lawns, terraced garden, orchard and paddock, with brook and never-failing spring; in all

ABOUT FIVE ACRES.

ONLY £3,000.—**CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.**

NEW FOREST AND THE SOLENT

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS. THREE MILES FROM SEA. NEAR GOLF.

CHARMING OLD-FASHIONED HOUSE, standing in delightful grounds and parklands; up to date in every way; carriage drive; four reception, twelve bedrooms, three bathrooms; electric light, central heating, telephone, Co.'s water; stabling, garages, two cottages; well-timbered pleasure grounds with lawns for tennis, etc.; kitchen gardens, parkland; in all about 50 ACRES.

FOR SALE.—**CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.**

SURREY AND KENT BORDERS



AMIDST MOST BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY, NEAR CHIDDINGSTONE AND PENSHURST.

PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE, occupying fine position in finely timbered park, approached by impressive carriage drive with lodge.

The accommodation includes LOUNGE HALL, FOUR RECEPTION, EIGHTEEN BEDROOMS, THREE BATHROOMS, etc.; GAS AND CO.'S WATER laid on, CENTRAL HEATING, telephone; stabling, two garages, home farm of 200 acres if required; singularly delightful pleasure grounds, well matured beautiful timber, ornamental water, large lawns for three tennis courts, rose garden, Dutch garden, walled kitchen garden, etc. Shooting might be had.

TO BE LET, FURNISHED, OR POSSIBLY UNFURNISHED.

HUNTING AND GOLF.—Sole Agents, **CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.**

NEWBURY AND KINGSCLERE

350FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

GRAVEL SOIL.

PICTURESQUE RESIDENCE, on the site of an old farmhouse—rebuilt and with all up-to-date conveniences; approached by drive with lodge.

LOUNGE HALL (old oak beams and panelling), three reception rooms, TWELVE BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, complete offices. STABLING; GARAGE.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. AMPLE WATER. FARMERY. TWO COTTAGES.

Delightful grounds, well timbered, and beautiful range of views, extending 20 miles; two tennis courts, walled garden, well-timbered pasture, and woodland.

ABOUT 100 ACRES.

MODERATE PRICE.

GOLF AND TROUT FISHING.—**CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.**

35 MINUTES' RAIL WATERLOO

ADJACENT TO EXTENSIVE COMMONLANDS. FIRST-CLASS GOLF. FINE SITUATION. SAND SOIL. PANORAMIC VIEWS.

PERFECTLY UNIQUE RESIDENCE, built in the Jacobean style of brick with characteristic chimneys. Recently the subject of a huge expenditure. Replete with every comfort. Interior fitted with old oak beams and panelling, open fireplaces, etc. Two drives, lodge. FOUR RECEPTION, ELEVEN BEDROOMS (fitted lavatory basins), THREE BATHROOMS; ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, TELEPHONE. Co.'s water, main drainage; stabling and garage, three cottages, model farmery; lovely gardens and grounds laid out by well-known landscape gardeners. Dutch garden, flagged and terraced flower gardens, alpine rock garden, hard tennis court, grass court and croquet lawn, fruit gardens, paddock and hanging woodland; in all

ABOUT FIFTEEN ACRES.

FOR SALE.

CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.

EASY ACCESS OF THE COAST. ONE HOUR'S RAIL SOUTH

EXCELLENT SERVICE OF EXPRESS TRAINS.

PERFECT REPLICA OF A XIVTH CENTURY MANOR HOUSE, built of mellowed red brick with half-timbered gables, carved barge boards, leaded casements, old tiled roof. Many quaint characteristics with a wealth of old oak panelling, massive beams and solid floors, open fireplaces, etc. FINE DRY HEALTHY POSITION.

300FT. UP, EXTENSIVE VIEWS.

Two long drives.

THREE RECEPTION, TEN BEDROOMS, FIVE BATHROOMS; ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, TELEPHONE.

Co.'s water, modern drainage; garage, stabling, two cottages, farmery; delightful pleasure grounds, flagged terraces and walks, formal garden, lily pond and fountain, clipped yew hedges, rose garden, oak and fir woodland with rhododendrons, streams, dell, etc., productive kitchen garden, glass, orchard and meadowland; in all

ABOUT 26 ACRES.

Hunting and golf. For SALE.—**CURTIS & HENSON, 5, Mount Street, W. 1.**



LAND AND
ESTATE AGENTS.

Telephone 21.

ESTABLISHED 1812.
GUDGEON & SONS
WINCHESTER

AUCTIONEERS
AND VALUERS.

Telegrams: "Gudgeons."



CLOSE TO FAMOUS YACHT ANCHORAGE.
BEAULIEU DISTRICT, HANTS

Uninterrupted views over the Beaulieu River, the Solent and Isle of Wight.

DELIGHTFUL CONVERTED FARMHOUSE.

Three reception rooms. Six bedrooms. Two bathrooms.
Electric light. Telephone.
H. and c. water to bedrooms.

GARAGE, COTTAGE, MODEL FARMERY AND

114 ACRES.

FOR SALE, PRICE £5,000 (open to offer).

For particulars of ground rent and length of Lease, apply to GUDGEON & SONS, Winchester. (Folio 1568.)



Telegrams: "Teamwork, Piccy, London."
Telephone: Mayfair 2300
" 2301
" 4424

NORFOLK & PRIOR
20, BERKELEY STREET, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1.

Auctioneers and Surveyors,
Valuers,
Land and Estate Agents.



BORDERS OF
DORSET AND SOMERSET

A mile from Templecombe Junction, with express service to London (two-and-a-half hours).

IN THE CENTRE OF THE BLACKMORE VALE.

A COMFORTABLE
STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE OR HUNTING BOX.

containing square hall, three reception rooms, six or more bedrooms, bathroom, two staircases, servants' hall (an adjoining building easily convertible into billiard room and additional bedrooms).

CENTRAL HEATING. GARAGE. ELECTRIC LIGHT. STABLES. PHONE.

FINE RANGE OF STONE-BUILT FARMBUILDINGS, EASILY ADAPTABLE FOR STUD PREMISES. TWO COTTAGES.

Inexpensive old-world grounds and walled kitchen garden, several enclosures of high grade pasture; in all

66 ACRES (OR LESS).

FOR SALE.—Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W.1.

BEAUFORT HUNT

In an old-world village, a mile from Badminton.

A STONE-BUILT HUNTING BOX.

in excellent order, and containing three reception rooms, six bedrooms, bathroom; modern conveniences.

GARAGE. CHAUFFEUR'S ROOMS.
HUNTERS' STABLES. COTTAGE.

Walled grounds, with tennis court, about

2 ACRES. £2,250, FREEHOLD.

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W.1.

SUFFOLK

Three-and-a-half miles from station, ten miles Bury St. Edmunds, easy reach of Newmarket.

1,700 ACRES SHOOTING AVAILABLE.

EARLY XVTH CENTURY MANOR HOUSE.
constructed of narrow Tudor bricks and possessing three groups of magnificent twisted and panelled chimneys; hall, three reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, bathroom and domestic offices; seven cottages, garage, stabling, farmbuildings; gardens, small park, pasture and arable; in all

240 ACRES .. £7,000.

6 ACRES .. £3,500.

For SALE.—Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W.1.

TROUT STREAM. SHOOTING.

NORTH DEVON

Amidst glorious scenery on the Western slope of Exmoor; handy for station and good town.

A CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE.

Two reception rooms, gunroom, billiard room, eight bed and dressing rooms; electric light and power, good water and drainage.

STABLES, FARMERY, TWO STAFF FLATS.

Gardens of great natural beauty, intersected by cascaded stream, orchard, pasture and woodland, bordered by a trout stream.

37 ACRES. £3,250.

Inspected and recommended by Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W.1.

CIRENCESTER (FOUR MILES)

In this splendid all the year round sporting and social area. Kemble Station three-and-a-half miles; 300ft. above sea level, gravel soil.

A charming

STONE-BUILT AND STONE-TILED RESIDENCE.

in excellent order, modernised and containing lounge hall, three reception rooms, ten bedrooms, three bathrooms, servants' hall.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. UNFAILING WATER.
MODERN DRAINAGE. FIVE COTTAGES. GARAGE FOR THREE CARS.

FINE STUD BUILDINGS OF 23 LOOSE BOXES.

Inexpensive old-world grounds, tennis court, orchard and some 62 ACRES of rich park-like pasture, intersected by

TROUT STREAM 68 ACRES

FOR SALE.—Illustrated particulars from the Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W.1. Inspected and recommended.



BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

About two-and-a-half miles from Aylesbury, whence London is reached by a splendid main line service of trains in about 45 minutes; lovely views over the Chiltern Hills and Vale of Aylesbury.

THIS EXCEPTIONALLY BEAUTIFUL
ORIGINAL QUEEN ANNE MANOR HOUSE.

sumptuously restored, in perfect keeping with the original, approached by long drive with lodge entrance, and containing lounge hall, three fine reception rooms, ten bedrooms, two bathrooms.

CONSTANT HOT WATER. ELECTRIC LIGHT. MAIN WATER.
SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE.

LODGE. COTTAGE. GARAGES. STABLES.

FINE RANGE OF FARMBUILDINGS FOR PEDIGREE HERD.
Well-timbered old-world grounds in park-like surroundings, rich well-watered pasture; in all

180 ACRES

FOR SALE.—Illustrated particulars from the Sole Agents, NORFOLK & PRIOR, 20, Berkeley Street, W.1. Inspected and recommended.



Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents (Audley),
London."

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

6, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

Telephone:
Grosvenor 3273
(5 lines).

WEST SUSSEX

GLORIOUS PANORAMIC VIEWS OF THE SOUTH DOWNS AND
CHANCTONBURY RING.

GOLF, HUNTING AND SHOOTING.

Within four miles of main line station, only an hour from London and two miles from
another station. All the principal rooms face due south.

THIS DELIGHTFUL MODERATE-SIZED RESIDENCE, in the
Sussex Farmhouse style, standing in

53 ACRES

of parkland, with a nice long carriage drive approach. Ten bedrooms, three bath-
rooms, lounge hall, three reception rooms (one panelled with fine old oak, date 1631).

ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE. RADIATORS.
GOOD WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE.

TWO CAPITAL COTTAGES. STABLING FOR SEVEN. GARAGES.

Beautiful grounds and kitchen garden.

IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

FOR SALE AT A VERY REASONABLE PRICE.

Inspected and strongly recommended by JOHN D. WOOD & Co. (30,865.)



TO CITY MEN AND GOLFERS.

HERTS

Fifteen miles from London and only 25 minutes by train. 380ft. above sea level,
commanding pretty views over the golf links.

THIS UNIQUE BUNGALOW RESIDENCE, most substantially built
and beautifully fitted, enjoying a secluded position, approached by carriage
drive from by-road; six bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, lounge hall and two
reception rooms.

GARAGE. COMPANY'S WATER. GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.

CENTRAL HEATING.

TELEPHONE.

MAIN DRAINAGE.

NICELY LAID-OUT GARDEN with tennis lawn, Italian garden, pergola and
kitchen garden.

FOR SALE.

Full particulars of JOHN D. WOOD & Co. (40,964.)



25 MINUTES TO KING'S CROSS.

BETWEEN HADLEY WOODS AND POTTERS BAR

Only twelve miles from Town, yet absolutely in the country, and commanding beautiful
views.

**THIS VERY DELIGHTFUL AND EXTREMELY WELL AP-
POINTED HOUSE**, in perfect order, containing oak hall, oak-panelled dining
room, oak billiard room, drawing room, library and morning room, ten good bedrooms,
three bathrooms, dressing room, servants' sitting room.

MAIN ELECTRIC LIGHT AVAILABLE. COMPANY'S GAS AND WATER.
PART CENTRAL HEATING. INDEPENDENT HOT WATER.

TELEPHONE. MAIN DRAINAGE.

Garages for four cars, stabling, two good cottages.

LOVELY GARDENS, shaded by fine trees of every variety, and comprising
two tennis lawns, kitchen garden, orchard, ornamental pond, etc.

IN ALL ABOUT FOUR ACRES

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD

or to be LET, Unfurnished, at £400 per annum.

Full particulars from the Owner's Agents, Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD & Co., 6,
Mount Street, W. 1, who recommend the House from personal inspection. (40,950.)



BY DIRECTION OF THE EXECUTORS OF MRS. JANE MAILLARD.

FARNHAM, SURREY



On the south-west wooded slope of the Hog's Back; two-and-a-half miles from Farnham
Station, Waterloo in about 70 minutes; almost adjoining Farnham Golf Links
(18 holes).

INGLEWOOD (RUNFOLD).—The attractive modern gabled ELIZABETHAN
STYLE RESIDENCE, containing large lounge hall, four reception, bath, and
twelve bedrooms; situated 300ft. above sea level, facing south, with long avenue
carriage drive and LODGE entrance; ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING,
AMPLE WATER SUPPLY, TELEPHONE, MODERN SANITATION; SANDY
SOIL; stabling, garage, cottage, and paddocks; PRETTY FLOWER GARDENS
and TENNIS LAWNS, with banks of rhododendrons adorning; CHARMING WOOD-
LAND GLADES AND WALKS; in all about 22 ACRES, which will be offered by
AUCTION (unless Sold Previously) by Messrs.

JOHN D. WOOD & CO. at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria
Street, E.C.1, on Wednesday, March 21st, 1928, at 2.30 p.m.—Solicitors, Messrs.
BOLTON & HICKMAN, 10, Old Jewry Chambers, London, E.C. Auctioneers' Office,
6, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, London, W. 1

ASHDOWN FOREST DISTRICT



**THIS DELIGHTFUL OLD SUSSEX FARMHOUSE TYPE OF
RESIDENCE**, full of beautiful old oak and beamed ceilings, enjoying a quiet,
secluded position and standing high, commanding distant views to the Downs; four
good bedrooms, boxroom, bathroom (h. and c.), lounge hall and two reception rooms;
CENTRAL HEATING, ELECTRIC LIGHT throughout House and buildings,
unfailing water supply, modern drainage, excellent cottage.

116 ACRES.

of which about seven acres are arable, fifteen acres woodland and the rest pasture,
all in good heart. Model farmery for 24 cows and good buildings. Hunting with
the Eridge, and within a few miles of Pitdown and Crowborough Golf Links.

PRICE £4,750.

Inspected and strongly recommended by the Agents, Messrs. JOHN D. WOOD
and Co. (31,545.)

JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 6, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W. 1.

Telephone No.:
Grosvenor 1553 (3 lines).

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778).

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, W.1

And at
Hobart Place, Eaton Sq.,
West Halkin St., Belgrave Sq.,
45, Parliament St.,
Westminster, S.W.

WARWICKSHIRE HUNT

BETWEEN STRATFORD-ON-AVON AND KINOTON.
RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE OF
582 OR 1,119 ACRES.



HANDSOME ELIZABETHAN-STYLE MANSION IN RICHLY WOODED PARK; lounge hall, billiard room, four reception rooms, ample offices, 27 bed and dressing rooms, six bathrooms; electric light, central heating; fine old gardens, glasshouses, cottages, woodlands.

STABLING. GARAGES. PICTURESQUE HOME FARM, and other agricultural holdings and cottages.

FOR SALE AT A VERY MODERATE PRICE.

Full particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (6844.)

30 MILES SOUTH OF LONDON

HIGH UP, FACING SOUTH, WITH WONDERFUL VIEWS.

Sandy soil; main line station and Golf Course one-and-a-half miles.



A PERFECT REPLICA OF AN OLD TUDOR RESIDENCE. BEAUTIFULLY FITTED INTERIOR; very fine oak-panelled lounge hall, dining and morning rooms, excellent offices, eleven bedrooms, two bathrooms, stabling, garage, and two cottages.

COMPANY'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.

LOVELY TERRACED GARDENS, the subject of great care and attention, undulating parkland; in all

22 ACRES.

For SALE, Freehold.—Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 1350.)

TO BE LET, UNFURNISHED.

ROEHAMPTON

Facing south over Richmond Park.

CHARMING MODERN HOUSE: eighteen bed, five bath, music room, four reception rooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. HARD COURT. GARAGE.

Recommended by GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 1617.)

BETWEEN PETWORTH AND STEYNING



CHARMING OLD TUDOR RECTORY, well worth modernising; approached by drive, and containing three reception, nine bed and dressing, usual offices; stabling and coach-house; gravel soil; really CHARMING OLD-WORLD GARDENS, etc.

TWO ACRES.

(More land can be had.)

FOR SALE, £2,500. GENUINE BARGAIN. Further particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (c 2851.)

SOUTH WILTS

Beautiful district. On high ground, with splendid views.

ELIZABETHAN HOUSE, with panelling in four rooms and all modern conveniences; thirteen bed, two baths, three reception rooms, tiled offices; garage, stabling, two cottages.

OLD-WORLD GARDENS.

FURNISHED for six months with option of Unfurnished

Lease at low rent.

SHOOTING AVAILABLE.

Orders to view of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount

Street, W. 1. (3881.)

NEAR HASLEMERE

On a dry sandy subsoil; 400ft. above sea level; near a first-class golf course; quiet and secluded position.



A WELL-PLANNED MODERN RESIDENCE, facing south; long drive; twelve bed, three baths, lounge, three reception rooms, spacious offices. Squash racquet court; modern conveniences. Stabling. Garage. Model farmery. DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS, and paddocks bordered by a stream.

30 ACRES.

For SALE.—Personally inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 1910.)

£180 PER ANNUM (NO PREMIUM).

OXON—BERKS BORDERS

WELL-BUILT MODERN RESIDENCE, approached by drive, with lodge, and containing four reception, nine bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.; Company's electric light, gas, and water, modern drainage; garden with tennis court, etc. TWO ACRES.

SIX-AND-A-HALF YEARS' LEASE.

Apply GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (C 4848.)

HAMPSHIRE

Aspect S.W. 270ft. above sea.



XVIIIth CENTURY HOUSE, containing three reception, seven bed, bath and ample offices; good water, central heating, modern drainage; excellent gardens, tennis lawn, and rose walks. FINELY TIMBERED PADDOCKS.

IN ALL, NINETEEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

PRICE £3,750.

Apply GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W. 1. (A 3153.)

MESSRS. CRONK

ESTATE AGENTS AND SURVEYORS.
KENT HOUSE, 18, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S,
S.W.1, and SEVENOAKS, KENT.
Established 1845. Telephones: 1195 Regent; 4 Sevenoaks.

SEVENOAKS (near).—Genuine XVIIth century RESIDENCE, full of old-world charm, and containing a wealth of old oak panelling. This Property, mentioned in Hasted's and other old histories of the county, has been brought thoroughly up to date, and contains eight principal bedrooms, three bathrooms, lounge hall, and three reception rooms; garage and lodge; modern drainage, electric light, central heating, telephone; the gardens and grounds are beautifully disposed in ornamental lawns, flower and fruit gardens, etc., and together with some excellent parkland extend to an area of about 50 acres. Price £10,000, Freehold. (5807.)

KENT—A comfortable old-fashioned RESIDENCE on the outskirts of an old-world village, and commanding charming views of the North Downs. The accommodation includes fourteen bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, and four reception rooms; Company's water, gas, central heating, telephone; garage and stabling, two cottages; the old-world pleasure grounds include tennis and other lawns, kitchen and fruit gardens, orchard, and about five acres of excellent parkland; total area about thirteen acres. Price, Freehold, £6,000. A further 25 acres and two cottages can be had if desired. (10,197.)

SEVENOAKS (near; on high ground and commanding excellent views).—An attractive RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, containing seven bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, and two reception rooms; electric light, Co.'s water, telephone, main drainage; garage and outbuildings; the grounds extend to an area of about seven acres, and include some excellent meadowland. Price £3,500, Freehold. (9618.)

ESTATE AGENTS.

C. BRIDGER & SON, F.A.I.

AUCTIONEERS
LAND AGENTS.

HASLEMERE (Tel. 4), AND HINDHEAD (Tel. 65).



A PERFECT GEM

SURREY AND SUSSEX BORDERS (one-and-a-half miles from Haslemere Station, main line; almost abutting lovely commons; residential district; bus service passes property; 500ft. up; sand and gravel soil).—GENTLEMAN'S GENUINE OLD-WORLD FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE, renovated, restored and modernised, and now forming a DELIGHTFUL COUNTRY RESIDENCE, with all up-to-date conveniences, including electric light, central heating, Co.'s water and modern drainage; charming lounge, panelled drawing room, cosy smoking room, quaint dining room, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, offices; garages, two good cottages, small farmery; lawns, orchard, kitchen and fruit gardens, paddocks, woodlands; THIRTEEN-AND-THREE-QUARTER ACRES. Vacant possession. For SALE by AUCTION in March, or Privately.—Full illustrated particulars and plan from C. BRIDGER & SON, F.A.I., Auctioneers, Haslemere (Tel. 4), and Hindhead (Tel. 65).

HINDHEAD AND FRENTHAM (between; adjoining golf course).—Unique small RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY; two reception, four bed, bath, offices; Co.'s water, central heating, phone, modern drains; garage; charming garden with excellent paddock and woodland; six-and-a-half or thirteen acres.—Recommended.

WITLEY AND GODALMING (between; good residential district, unspoilt country).—Attractive COUNTRY RESIDENCE, in excellent order; lounge hall, two reception, offices, seven bed, bath; Co.'s water, gas, electric light, modern drains; garage for two; charming grounds; one-and-a-quarter acres.—Recommended.

Telegrams :
"Estate, c/o Harrods, London."
Branch Office: "West Byfleet."

HARRODS Ltd.

62 & 64, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON, S.W.1.
(OPPOSITE MESSRS. HARRODS LTD., MAIN PREMISES.)

Telephone :
Estate Office only,
Kensington 1490.
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ST. GEORGE'S HILL

HIGH UP. SPLENDID VIEWS.

CHARMING HOUSE,
IN FINE ORDER,

containing :

LOUNGE,
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,
TWELVE BEDROOMS,
DRESSING ROOMS,
FOUR BATHROOMS,



EXCEPTIONAL GARDENS,

with lawns, ornamental gardens, orchard,
kitchen garden and woodland ; in all about

NINE ACRES.

GARAGE. STABLING. BUNGALOW.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

HARRODS LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road,
S.W. 1.

SHERE AND GOMSHALL

EXECUTOR'S SALE. 400FT. UP. DELIGHTFUL SITUATION. GOOD SPORTING FACILITIES.

DELIGHTFUL MEDIUM-SIZED
RESIDENCE,

conveniently placed for station, shops, etc.

Contains :

HALL,
THREE RECEPTION ROOMS,
EIGHT PRINCIPAL BED AND
DRESSING ROOMS
SERVANTS' ROOMS
TWO BATHROOMS.



CO.'S WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.
TELEPHONE. MODERN DRAINAGE.

Cottage, garage for two cars, outbuildings.

PRETTY INEXPENSIVE PLEASURE
GARDENS, with lawn ; in all about

THREE-AND-THREE-QUARTER
ACRES.

N.B.—Further four acres adjoining could
be purchased.

MODERATE PRICE FOR IMMEDIATE
SALE.

Inspected and recommended by HARRODS
LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W. 1.

A REAL ENGLISH COUNTRY HOME.

WILTS AND SOMERSET BORDERS

Only a mile from a delightful old Market Town in a much sought-after and favoured part.

LOVELY OLD
DOWER HOUSE.

FOUR RECEPTION.
TWELVE BEDROOMS.
THREE BATHROOMS.

ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING.

CERTIFIED DRAINAGE.

STABLING. GARAGE. FARMHOUSE,
FARMERY, and THREE COTTAGES.



BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND
GROUNDS,

SURROUNDED BY SOME OF THE
FINEST PASTURE IN THE COUNTRY.
LYING IN A RING FENCE AND EX-
TENDING TO

ABOUT 100 ACRES.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

Inspected and recommended by HARRODS
LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W. 1.

HERTS. 45 MINUTES LONDON

Much sought-after neighbourhood ; occupying quietly retired country situation, yet only a mile from main line station.

ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE

LOUNGE HALL.
THREE RECEPTION
FIVE BEDROOMS,
ONE DRESSING ROOM,
BATHROOM,
KITCHEN AND OFFICES.

COMPANY'S WATER AND GAS.
SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE
CONSTANT HOT WATER.



ARTIST'S STUDIO

of large dimensions with north light.

BEAUTIFUL MATURED AND WELL-
SHADED GARDENS AND GROUNDS
of

ABOUT TWO ACRES.

£2,800, FREEHOLD.

HARRODS LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road,
S.W. 1.

GODALMING. GLORIOUS SITUATION

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CO.'S WATER AND GAS. TELEPHONE.
INDEPENDENT HOT WATER SUPPLY.



FINELY
APPOINTED
RESIDENCE,

with lounge hall,
three reception, eight
bed and dressing
room, two bath-
rooms, usual offices.

Good garage,
Outbuildings.

Heavily timbered
pleasure grounds,
double tennis court,
rock garden, yew
hedges, and woodland
walks ; in all about

THREE ACRES. FOR SALE, FREEHOLD.

HARRODS LTD., 62-64, Brompton Road, S.W. 1.

FINE POSITION ON SURREY HILLS

Amidst unspoilt country, within one mile of North Downs and other well-known
golf courses.

ATTRACTIVE
RESIDENCE
facing south.

Hall, three reception,
five bedrooms, two
bathrooms, attic,
usual offices. Modern
drainage, Co.'s gas
and water, telephone.

Rustic cottage in
grounds, with two sitting
rooms, three bedrooms,
attics, bathroom.

Garage.
Outbuildings.
Splendidly disposed
pleasure gardens, ten-
nis and other lawns,
flower beds, orchard ;
in all about



TWO-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES. 3,000 GUINEAS.

Inspected and strongly recommended by the Agents, HARRODS LTD.,
62-64, Brompton Road, S.W. 1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY AND WALTON & LEE

THE ESTATE SALE ROOMS, LONDON, W. 1

BY DIRECTION OF MRS. TUDOR.

SURREY

Among pine woods, 200ft. above sea level; half-a-mile from Camberley Station.
THE ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE,
WAVERLEY COURT, CAMBERLEY



Standing high in one of the finest positions in the district and facing almost due south, with views over the golf course to the Hog's Back.

THE SUBSTANTIAL FAMILY RESIDENCE contains entrance and lounge halls, four reception rooms, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, and complete offices. Main electricity, gas and water, main drainage, central heating; entrance lodge, garages and stabling, chauffeur's cottage. FINELY TIMBERED GROUNDS with specimen cedars and pines and magnificent rhododendrons, two tennis lawns, putting course, walled garden; in all about

SIX-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

To be offered for SALE by AUCTION, in the Hanover Square Estate Room, on Tuesday, June 5th, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously disposed of Privately).
Solicitor, EDWIN T. CLOSE, LL.B., 95, High Street, Camberley; Auctioneers, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1.

BETWEEN SANDWICH & FOLKESTONE

TO BE SOLD.

A FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY,
In a picturesque valley and occupying part of the SITE OF AN ANCIENT ABBEY.



THE WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE, erected in 1815 in the Gothic style, with an embattled tower and castellated parapets, is fitted with modern comforts and conveniences, and contains hall, billiard room and six reception rooms, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, linen and workrooms, four bathrooms, and offices.

Company's electric light, gas and water, electric heating; entrance lodge, cottages, stabling, garage, and farmbuildings.

THE PLEASURE GROUNDS are intersected by a river, which forms a series of ornamental lakes with wooded islets and fountains, and is well stocked with trout, fruit gardens and an orangery; in all about

23 ACRES.

SEVERAL GOLF COURSES NEAR.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (4706.)

WINCHESTER DISTRICT

AN OLD-FASHIONED COTTAGE, covered in creepers, facing south, with pretty views; three reception rooms, seven bedrooms, two bathrooms and offices.
Company's gas and water. Central heating. Telephone. Stabling for four, garage; pleasure gardens and paddock of four acres. Hunting, golf, fishing.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £3,200

(INCLUDING FITTINGS AND GARDEN TOOLS).
Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (24,642.)

SURREY

Between Sutton and Reigate; one-and-a-half miles from Walton Heath Golf Course.

Comfortable brick-built RESIDENCE, situate away from main road, 550ft. above sea level with south aspect; two or three reception, ten bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, servants' sitting room, etc.

Electric light. Company's water. Telephone. Garage and stabling; pleasure gardens, lawns and paddock.

FOR SALE WITH TWO OR FIVE ACRES.
Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (17,612.)

SOUTH CORNWALL

ABOUT A MILE FROM THE COAST.
A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF 24 ACRES, including a WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE, erected about 40 years ago, facing south and having a sea view; four reception rooms, ten bedrooms, two dressing rooms, one with bath, three bathrooms, etc.; Company's water and gas, main drainage; garage for three cars, fitted laundry; stabling for five. PLEASURE GROUNDS, with TENNIS and CROQUET LAWNS, remainder pasture.

PRICE £5,000.

Eight cottages can be purchased.
Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (24,681.)

IN THE HEYTHROP COUNTRY

AND CONVENIENT FOR SEVERAL OTHER PACKS.



AN EXCEPTIONALLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, formerly a coaching inn, and once the property of William Lenthall, Speaker of the "Long Parliament." Three reception rooms, nine bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, boxroom, etc., usual offices.

Electric main from town supply lighting house, garages, stabling, and cottage.

CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE. Two garages. Stabling for four. Cottage (five rooms).

HUNTING. GOLF. FISHING CAN BE HAD. THE GROUNDS, including pleasure and vegetable gardens, small conservatory and tennis court, extend to about

TWO ACRES.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £4,000.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (24,632.)

MID-SUSSEX

TWO MILES FROM HAYWARDS HEATH. COMFORTABLE BRICK-BUILT HOUSE, standing high, with sunny aspect; short carriage drive; three reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, etc. Electric light, central heating, main water and drainage, telephone.

Two garages. Cottage with bathroom.

About three acres of gardens and paddock.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £4,250.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,

20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (16,479.)

IN "HARDY'S WESSEX"

THREE MILES FROM A TOWN AND STATION. OLD-FASHIONED RESIDENCE, situate in quiet and peaceful country, not overlooked and in a sunny position; all rooms facing south with pleasant downland views. Three reception rooms, ante room, six bedrooms, bathroom, and usual domestic offices.

TELEPHONE. COMPANY'S WATER. Garage, two loose boxes, pigsties and poultry houses; about an acre of garden and orchard. HUNTING with two packs.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £2,300.
Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (24,716.)

REIGATE

TO BE SOLD OR LET, FURNISHED. AN ATTRACTIVE GABLED HOUSE, in excellent order throughout, having a South aspect, and commanding lovely views.

Three reception rooms, billiard room or nursery, eight bedrooms, two bathrooms, servants' hall, butler's pantry. ELECTRIC LIGHT. MAIN DRAINAGE.

COMPANIES' GAS AND WATER. Stabling for two. Garage for two cars.

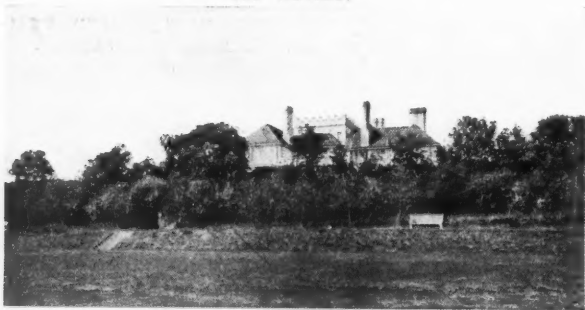
THE GARDENS include full-size tennis court, flower beds, and kitchen garden, with walled fruit trees.

Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (24,559.)

HAMPSHIRE

BETWEEN ANDOVER AND NEWBURY.

A FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE EXTENDING TO ABOUT
350 ACRES.



INCLUDING A MODERN TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE, erected of stone, fitted regardless of cost, in perfect condition, occupying a fine position 550ft. above sea level, and commanding magnificent views over the surrounding country. It is approached by a long carriage drive with lodge, and contains oak-paneled hall, three reception rooms, billiard room, twelve bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, and usual offices.

Central heating, electric light, telephone; stabling, garages, lodges, bailiff's house. THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS are well laid out, tennis lawn, pergolas, ornamental pond, garden house, thatched summer house, paddock, kitchen garden. FARMERY.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY.

HUNTING. GOLF. SHOOTING. FISHING.
Agents, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1. (14,994.)

BY DIRECTION OF G. W. WILLIAMSON, ESQ.

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS

500ft. above sea level. Six miles from Tunbridge Wells.
OAKWOOD, WADHURST



A COMFORTABLE LABOUR-SAVING FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, one mile from Wadhurst Station, brick built and tiled, and containing lounge, two reception rooms, six bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, and compact offices; main electricity, water and gas, modern septic tank drainage. Large garage.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS with tennis lawn, herbaceous borders, ornamental shrubberies, orchards and paddock. ANCIENT XVth CENTURY COTTAGE, in excellent order; in all about

TWO-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

To be offered for SALE by AUCTION, in the Hanover Square Estate Room, on Thursday, April 26th, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless previously disposed of Privately).

Solicitors, Messrs. COLDHAM, BIRKETT, & FLEURET, 3, Clement's Inn, W.C. 2. Auctioneers, Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY, 20, Hanover Square, W. 1.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY,
AND
WALTON & LEE,

20, Hanover Square, W. 1.
90, Princes Street, Edinburgh.
41, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent.
Bridge Road, Welwyn City.

(Knight, Frank & Rutley's advertisements continued on pages iii. and v.)

Telephone:

314 } Mayfair (8 lines).
3068 }
20146 Edinburgh.
327 Ashford, Kent.
248 Welwyn Garden.

Telephone:
Tunbridge Wells
1153 (2 lines).

BRACKETT & SONS

London Office:
Gerrard 4634.

27 & 29, HIGH ST., TUNBRIDGE WELLS, and 34, CRAVEN ST., CHARING CROSS, W.C.2.

RUSTHALL COMMON (TUNBRIDGE WELLS)

PRICE £2,400, FREEHOLD, OR OFFER.



In a high position on the outskirts of the famous Rusthall Common and near the renowned Toad Rock.

AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED STONE-BUILT HOUSE, approached by carriage sweep; two reception rooms, small sitting room, seven bedrooms, two dressing rooms and well-fitted and convenient domestic offices.

Gas, main water and main drainage.

Electric light available.

SINGULARLY ATTRACTIVE GARDENS on which a large amount of money has been expended, including rose garden, rock walks, etc., kitchen garden and small orchard; in all over

HALF-AN-ACRE.

Stabling for two, small coach-house and other outbuildings.

Further particulars of BRACKETT & SONS, as above. (Fo. 32,570.)

Telephone:
Gerrard 4364 (3 lines).

ELLIS & SONS

Telegrams:
"Ellisoneer, Piccy, London."

(OWEN WALLIS, F.A.I., Managing Country Section.)

ESTATE HOUSE, 31, DOVER STREET, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.1.

GOLF AT SWINLEY FOREST, SUNNINGDALE, WENTWORTH, AND ASCOT.
60 MINUTES' RAIL OR A LITTLE MORE BY ROAD.

SURREY AND BERKS

(near the borders).

RESIDENCE OF CHARM,

of picturesque appearance, on light soil and about 300ft. above sea; entrance and lounge halls, four reception, twelve bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, good offices; Company's water and electric light, central heating, 'phone.

ABOUT 8 OR 38 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS AND GARDENS.

Cottages, garage, farmery, etc.

Extraordinarily low price. Must be SOLD.

WALLIS & WALLIS, 31, High Street, Guildford, and ELLIS & SONS, 31, Dover Street, W.1.



RUMSEY & RUMSEY

LAND AND ESTATE AGENTS, BOURNEMOUTH.

JUST IN THE MARKET
SITUATE IN A FAVOURITE PART OF SOUTH HANTS
CONVENIENT FOR YACHTING, GOLF, HUNTING AND SHOOTING.
THREE MILES FROM THE COAST, COMMANDING UNOBSTRUCTABLE VIEWS OF THE
SOLENT AND ENGLISH CHANNEL.



FINE OLD-FASHIONED COUNTRY HOUSE, replete with modern refinements.
Hall, four reception, twelve bed and dressing, three bathrooms, excellent offices.

STABLING, GARAGES AND TWO COTTAGES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

COMPANY'S WATER.

CENTRAL HEATING.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AND GROUNDS inexpensive to maintain.

TROUT LAKE.

UNDULATING AND CHOICELY TIMBERED PARK.

In all about

52 ACRES.

Further particulars and price may be obtained from the Agents, as above. (Folio c 416.)

WHATLEY, HILL & CO.

AGENTS for COUNTRY HOUSES AND ESTATES,
24, RYDER STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1.



WILTS (in the centre of the V.W.H. (Cricklade) Hunt).—To be SOLD, or LET, on lease, a beautiful stone-built COTSWOLD HOUSE, standing in a high situation with beautiful views to the south, and within a short distance of the Cricklade Kennels. The House is approached by a long drive. The accommodation includes entrance hall, sitting hall, library, dining room, study, complete offices, twelve bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms; all modern conveniences installed. Provision has been made for additional bedrooms on the upper floor if required. Excellent stables and garage, with a flat above, also detached cottage. The gardens have been well laid out and include large walled garden, sunk rose garden, two tennis courts; about 23 acres in all.

Sole Agents:

Messrs. WHATLEY, HILL & Co.,
24, Ryder Street, St. James's, S.W. 1.

HANKINSON & SON

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NEW FOREST.

CROWN LEASE FOR DISPOSAL.



RENT ONLY £123 PER ANNUM. NINE YEARS TO RUN. Close to Lyndhurst; overlooking golf links and adjoining the forest; billiard room, three reception, nine bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, etc.; two garages, two loose boxes; grounds of seven acres; electric light from private plant, main water, independent hot water supply. PREMIUM REQUIRED for Lease, fittings, carpets, electric light plant and improvements made.

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COTSWOLDS (beautiful Campden District).—TO BE SOLD, the above charming old HOUSE, most carefully restored, with accommodation comprising four reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms, excellent kitchen offices, two staircases; independent hot water system; garage; delightful grounds, paved garden, tennis court, kitchen garden; the whole having an area of TWO ACRES. First-rate order. IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

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GLORIOUS DEVON

NEAR EXETER.

In a superb position; close to village, church, post and doctor, and about three miles from station.—THIS VERY CHARMING MODERN TUDOR COUNTRY RESIDENCE, in perfect order, beautifully fitted up, with

200 ACRES.

with range of model farmbuildings, stabling, etc., and two or three cottages, including first-rate Residence for bailiff. The accommodation comprises oak-paneled lounge hall, four reception, billiard room, ten beds and dressing room, two baths (h. and c.).

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING.

TELEPHONE.

The Property affords exceptionally good shooting, and more can be had; also hunting, salmon and trout fishing, all in immediate neighbourhood.

PRICE ONLY £13,000.

Inspected and strongly recommended by W. HUGHES and SON, LTD., as above. (17,595.)



COTSWOLDS

On the southern slope. This very charming old-fashioned gabled COUNTRY RESIDENCE, standing in beautifully timbered and matured old grounds, with meadowland and orcharding; in all about ELEVEN ACRES. There is lounge hall, three reception, billiard room, eleven bed and dressing rooms, bath (h. and c.); Co.'s water, electric light, also central heating; excellent stabling with man's room, garage, outhouses and three good cottages. Hunting, golf.

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DEVON (Exmoor).—To be SOLD, PICTURESQUE COTTAGE RESIDENCE, secluded yet accessible, in unrivalled position, 900ft. up, with glorious moorland views; two reception, five bedrooms, bathroom; unfailing water supply, modern drainage, petrol gas; garage; pretty garden, intersected by stream, and grassland.—Particularly well placed for STAG AND FOXHUNTING.—Particulars and photos of RIPPON, BOSWELL & Co., Exeter. (6423.)

Telephone: 4706 Gerrard (2 lines).
Telegrams: "Cornlehmen, London."

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MAGNIFICENT POSITION, 600FT. UP. Commanding beautiful views.



SOUTH DEVON

A very attractive RESIDENCE, in perfect order throughout, containing:

Halls, 3 reception rooms, 3 bathrooms, 9 bed and dressing rooms, etc.

Electric light. Modern drainage. Independent hot water service.

Stabling for 5. Garage. Cottage. Bungalow.

Well-timbered gardens with hard tennis court, rookery, walled kitchen garden, orchard, small wood and pastureland; in all nearly

50 ACRES.

The Residence might be sold with less land.

Excellent centre for hunting, golf, fishing and shooting.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (13,688.)

GREAT BARGAIN

£2,000 WITH 4 ACRES.

Overlooking Southampton Water, The Solent and the Isle of Wight.

GOOD ANCHORAGE FOR YACHTS IN THE MOUTH OF THE HAMBLE RIVER.

Attractive RESIDENCE, containing:

Hall, 3 reception rooms, 11 bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, etc.

2 garages. The grounds include tennis and other lawns, summerhouse, kitchen garden, etc.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (12,188.)

Inspected and strongly recommended.

WELL-EQUIPPED FRUIT FARM. 80 ACRES. A steadily increasing annual net profit may be confidently expected.

WORCS.—SALOP borders (accessible to several markets)—Gentleman's RESIDENCE of brick with stone-mullioned windows.

4 RECEPTION. BATHROOM. 10 BEDROOMS.

STABLING FOR 4. GARAGE. 2 COTTAGES.

Pleasure grounds, orchards of apples, pears, damsons, plums and cherries. Kent cob plantation, gooseberries and black currants.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (3736.)

£6,500 WITH 71 ACRES. £3,500 WITH 22½ ACRES. RENT, UNFURNISHED, £200 PER ANNUM. BEAUTIFUL POSITION

750FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

In pretty country 5 miles from Stoke, commanding fine views.

Attractive stone-built RESIDENCE, approached by drive with lodge at entrance.

Lounge hall, 4 reception rooms, bathroom, 7 bedrooms, etc.

Co.'s water, electric light, Telephone, central heating. Excellent stabling, garage, cottage, 2 farmhouses and buildings.

Charming well-timbered pleasure grounds with lawns, kitchen garden, rose garden, woodland and pasture. Good centre for hunting and golf.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (12,738.)

Inspected and recommended.

8 MILES BATH.—FOR SALE, or might LET Unfurnished, a well-appointed stone-built RESIDENCE, standing high.

Lounge, 3 reception, bathroom, 10 bed and dressing rooms.

Central heating, gas, excellent water.

Garage, lodge; inexpensive grounds, partly walled; tennis lawn, kitchen garden, etc.; 2½ acres.

TRESIDDER & Co., 37, Albemarle St., W. 1. (10,951.)

Inspected and strongly recommended.

8 ACRES. SPUR OF THE COTSWOLDS

Southern slope, 500ft. up, magnificent views. Hunting with the Duke of Beaufort's Hounds.—For SALE, or to LET, CHARMING OLD RESIDENCE.

Billiard, 3 reception, 2 bathrooms, 11 bedrooms.

Petrol gas. Telephone. Excellent water.

Excellent stabling for 9. Garage. 3 cottages.

Nicely timbered grounds, tennis courts, kitchen gardens, orchard and paddock.

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GENTLEMAN'S SPORTING AND PROFITABLE SMALL ESTATE

ONLY 30 MILES OUT,

ONE HOUR FROM BANK OF ENGLAND



A CHOICE RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY, possessing distinct progressive commercial potentialities; coupled with all-round sporting facilities, in a picturesque and unspoilt part of the country. The MODERN CREEPER-CLAD RESIDENCE, which stands in an undulating well-timbered park, is approached by long drive with lodge entrance. Contains lounge hall, three reception, billiard room, twelve bed and dressing, bathroom, excellent offices; electric light, main water, modern drainage; light soil; model farmbuildings and covered yards, stabling, garage, and several cottages; well-watered pasturelands of nearly 170 ACRES, fertile, arable and splendid woodlands, inexpensive ornamental grounds with lawns, capital kitchen and fruit gardens, etc.; in all about

230 ACRES, FREEHOLD.

LOW PRICE OF £45 PER ACRE.

WHICH IS PRACTICALLY THE VALUE OF THE LAND ALONE. THE FINE RESIDENCE, BAILIFF'S HOUSE, COTTAGES, AND BUILDINGS THROWN IN. GOLF. POLO. HUNTING, SHOOTING, AND YACHTING ALL CLOSE AT HAND.

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THE ESTATE OFFICES, BURGESS HILL (Tel.: Burgess Hill 170), and 35, EAST STREET, BRIGHTON.

IN THE HEART OF SUSSEX.

Five minutes main line station, London one hour, Brighton nine miles.



THIS CHARMING RESIDENCE, in a lovely setting, is in perfect order throughout; nine bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, four reception rooms. There are parquet floors, central heating. Company's water, gas and electric light, main drainage; large garage, chauffeur's rooms, two cottages, and MOST BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS of about FOUR ACRES.—Illustrated particulars may be obtained of the Owner's Agent, RAYMOND BEAUMONT, as above.

OXFORDSHIRE.—For SALE, in perfect seclusion amidst completely rural surroundings yet within five miles of centre of Oxford. Old stone-built FARMHOUSE, with large stone barn and other outbuildings and thirteen acres of land, largely orchard.—"A 7741," c/o COUNTRY LIFE Offices, 20, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

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WINDSOR, SLOUGH AND READING. Also 4, BLOOMSBURY SQUARE, W.C. 1. Museum 0472. LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS. Windsor 48, Slough 28, Reading 1890.



BETWEEN NEWBURY AND READING (in a delightful position 350ft. above sea level, on gravel soil, with beautiful views over surrounding country).—TO BE SOLD, an attractive character RESIDENCE of pleasing elevation, containing eight bedrooms, three reception, bathroom (h. and c.), excellent domestic offices; stabling, garage, cottage. The grounds include two tennis courts, flower and vegetable gardens with two paddocks; in all about NINE ACRES. PRICE £4,500.—Recommended by BUCKLAND & SONS, 154, Friar Street, Reading. (3438.)

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SUFFOLK (first-rate sporting district).—Historical OLD MOATED HOUSE, together with about 250 ACRES; ten bed, four sitting rooms, etc. Price and all details of Owner's Agents, as above.

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37, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET,
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ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE PLACES IN THE HOME COUNTIES

IN THE MIDST OF GLORIOUS HEATHER-CLAD COUNTRY. 350 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL ON LIGHT SOIL. SOUTH ASPECT.



A PERFECT
REPLICA
OF AN
EARLY
GEORGIAN
RESIDENCE



LUXURIOUSLY APPOINTED AND FITTED REGARDLESS OF EXPENSE AND EMBODYING EVERY UP-TO-DATE COMFORT.

THE WHOLE IS IN THE MOST PERFECT ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER OF THE PERIOD.

Seventeen bed and dressing rooms, four marble panelled bathrooms, massive oak-galleried staircase, domestic offices tiled throughout, four richly panelled reception rooms, magnificent picture gallery and library.

OAK FLOORS, TELEPHONE, ELECTRIC LIGHT, CENTRAL HEATING, MODERN SANITATION, GARAGE, GOOD WATER SUPPLY.
FOUR COTTAGES, STABLING, GREENHOUSES.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS OF GREAT BEAUTY LAID OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF MISS JEKYLL.

MINIATURE LAKE.

DUTCH, TERRACE AND WILD GARDENS.

THE ESTATE EXTENDS TO ABOUT



93 ACRES

and is

BEAUTIFULLY
WOODED

and

INTERSECTED BY A

PICTURESQUE
STREAM.

EXCELLENT GOLF.



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ADJOINING FAMOUS SURREY GOLF COURSE

ONLY HALF-AN-HOUR FROM TOWN; IN A DELIGHTFUL RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE.

DRAWING AND DINING ROOMS,
FINE MUSIC OR BILLIARD ROOM, TEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS,
FOUR BATHROOMS AND COMPLETE DOMESTIC OFFICES.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND HEAT. CENTRAL HEATING.

Double garage and chauffeur's quarters.

TENNIS AND PLEASURE LAWNS, WELL-KEPT GARDENS AND GROUNDS
TWO ACRES.

PRICE, FREEHOLD, £9,000.

Apply Messrs. COLLINS & COLLINS. (Folio 16,331.)



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14, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.1.

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BETWEEN LONDON AND BRIGHTON



Under an hour from Town, close to golf links, perfectly secluded amidst ideal surroundings, 200 yards back from the road with avenue drive and picturesque LODGE.

OLD-WORLD HOUSE OF THE JACOBAN PERIOD.

in wonderful order, up to date in every respect, but with all characteristic features preserved.

Notable features include superb old panelling, massive oak beams, fine open fireplaces, oak staircase.

Company's electric light and water. Central heating. Modern drainage.

Entrance and inner halls, three reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, four splendid bathrooms; cottage, garage for several cars, farmery.

IDEAL AND BEAUTIFUL GARDENS, lawns for tennis and croquet, HARD TENNIS COURT, Italian garden, ornamental water, walled kitchen garden with range of glass, orchard, park-like pasture.

40 ACRES.

For SALE Privately now or by AUCTION later; the whole of the valuable and appropriate furniture can be purchased.

Auctioneers, WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

BUDE, NORTH CORNWALL



CLOSE TO THE SEA AND GOLF LINKS.

EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-BUILT MODERN HOUSE

in splendid order and ready for immediate occupation; six bedrooms, bathroom, three delightful reception rooms; winter garden.

Garage, chauffeur's room and useful outbuildings.

MAIN WATER SUPPLY.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

VERY CHARMING GARDENS AND SMALL Paddock.

ONE-AND-A-HALF ACRES.

A LOW PRICE WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THE FREEHOLD.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW OR BY AUCTION LATER.

Sole Agents, WILSON & Co., 14, Mount Street, W.1.

HILL COTTAGE, EVERSLEY

In a delightful part of the country on the borders of Hants and Berks. "On the beautiful Bramhill Estate." An hour from London, high up with good views, secluded position, perfect surroundings.



DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE IN FIRST-RATE ORDER.

Seven bedrooms, bathroom, hall, three reception rooms, including a very charming drawing room 29ft. by 14ft., complete domestic offices.

ALL UP-TO-DATE IDEAS INCLUDING
ELECTRIC LIGHT.

Two garages, workshop, and many useful buildings.

BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS with fine old trees, stone-flagged terraces, rose garden, first-class tennis court, kitchen garden, over

THREE ACRES.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW OR BY AUCTION IN MARCH

The owner having purchased a larger place.

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NEAR BEAUTIFUL SURREY COMMON



An hour from London, four miles from Guildford; 400ft. above sea level; sandy soil; magnificent views.

SPLENDIDLY APPOINTED MODERN HOUSE.

In perfect order and up to date in every respect.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. TELEPHONE. MAIN WATER SUPPLY, ETC.

Twelve bedrooms, two bathrooms, panelled lounge, three charming reception rooms, exceptional domestic quarters.

Garage, stabling, cottage. BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS; park and woodlands.

FOR SALE WITH 50 ACRES.

ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE PROPERTIES IN THE MARKET.

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ASHDOWN FOREST GOLF COURSE



The most beautiful spot in Sussex adjoining Ashdown Forest and close to the celebrated links; 600ft. up with glorious views.

A REPLICA OF

AN OLD SUSSEX MANOR HOUSE,

combining the charm of the old-world with all the comforts and conveniences of a modern up-to-date house.

Thirteen bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, four reception rooms, and lounge.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. CENTRAL HEATING. TELEPHONE.

Old Farmhouse, two cottages, garage. Beautiful grounds with grass and hard tennis courts, well-timbered grassland.

FOR SALE WITH SIXTEEN ACRES.

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OCCUPYING A BEAUTIFUL POSITION IN THE
HEART OF THE NEW FOREST



FOR SALE, this comfortable old-fashioned FREEHOLD COUNTRY RESIDENCE, in excellent order throughout, containing

Ten principal bed and dressing rooms,
Bathroom,
Four reception rooms,
Complete domestic offices.

COMPANY'S WATER,
MAIN DRAINAGE.
STABLING. GARAGE.

Charming pleasure gardens and grounds, including walled kitchen garden, two tennis courts, paddock, etc.; the whole comprising about

NINE ACRES.

Particulars of FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.



HAMPSHIRE

One-and-a-half miles from Christchurch Station, on the Southern Ry. main line. Four miles from Bournemouth. COMMANDING BEAUTIFUL UNINTERRUPTED VIEWS ACROSS THE VALLEY OF THE RIVER STOUR.

FOR SALE, this exceptionally attractive FREEHOLD PROPERTY, with picturesque House containing four bedrooms, two sitting rooms, kitchen and dairy; Company's water. Tying for seven cows, numerous buildings, bungalow. There is a nice cultivated vegetable garden and tea lawn, also first-class pasture and meadowland, the whole extending to an area of about TEN-AND-A-HALF ACRES. PRICE £3,300, FREEHOLD. The Property would be sold with less land if required. Particulars of FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

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Close to the borders of the New Forest; thirteen miles from Bournemouth.

TO BE SOLD, the above exceptionally attractive and soundly constructed modern Freehold RESIDENCE, containing six bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, boudoir, three reception rooms, entrance hall, kitchen and complete offices; Company's gas and water, private electric lighting plant, main drainage; garage; delightful pleasure gardens and grounds; the whole extending to an area of about

ONE-AND-A-QUARTER ACRES.

PRICE £6,250, FREEHOLD (or near offer).
FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

TO SPORTSMEN AND FARMERS.

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EIGHT MILES FROM BASINGSTOKE STATION ON THE SOUTHERN RY. MAIN LINE. ONE HOUR FROM WATERLOO BY EXPRESS TRAIN SERVICE. TWO MILES FROM DUMMER.

FOX & SONS are favoured with instructions to offer for SALE by AUCTION, in TWO LOTS, at the George Hotel, Winchester, on Monday, April 23rd, 1928, at 3 o'clock precisely (unless previously Sold Privately), the

FIRST-CLASS SPORTING AND AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY.

"BREACH FARM."

ABOUT ONE MILE OFF THE LONDON MAIN ROAD, COMPRISING

A SUPERIOR RESIDENCE,

containing seven bedrooms, three reception rooms, excellent offices; dairy.

TWO SETS OF FARMBUILDINGS.

EIGHT COTTAGES.

FERTILE ARABLE LAND.

CHOICE PASTURAGE.

EXCEPTIONAL PARTRIDGE SHOOTING.

WELL-PLACED COVERTS.

The whole extends to an area of about

792 ACRES.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION (EXCEPT THE SHOOTING, WHICH IS LET FOR THE COMING SEASON).

Solicitors, Messrs. BRAIN & BRAIN, 156, Friar Street, Reading.

Auctioneers, Messrs. FOX & SONS, Bournemouth and Southampton.

HEREFORDSHIRE

ON THE MONMOUTHSHIRE BORDER: SEVEN MILES FROM ABERGAVENNY; ABOUT ONE MILE FROM PANDY RAILWAY STATION.

FOX & SONS are favoured with instructions to offer for SALE by AUCTION, in 40 LOTS, at the Angel Hotel, Abergavenny, on Tuesday, April 17th, 1928 at 2.30 o'clock precisely (unless previously Sold Privately), the

FREEHOLD AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY

known as the

LLANCILLO ESTATE.

SITUATE IN THE PARISHES OF LLANCILLO AND WALTERSTONE, AND INCLUDING

SIX FINE STOCK-REARING FARMS,

WITH FIRST-CLASS HOUSES AND AMPLE BUILDINGS, THREE SMALLER FARMS.

CHOICE SMALLHOLDINGS,

varying from three to sixteen acres, residential sites, rich pastures; valuable trout and grayling fishing, about one-and-a-half miles in River Monnow.

THE ESTATE COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT

1,140 ACRES.

Plan, particulars and conditions of sale may be obtained in due course of the Solicitors, Messrs. RAWLINS, DAVY and WELLS, Hinton Chambers, Bournemouth; or of the Auctioneers, Messrs. FOX & SONS, Bournemouth and Southampton.



DORSET

Overlooking the Broadstone Golf Course.

TO BE SOLD, this exceptionally attractive well-constructed modern Freehold RESIDENCE, containing four good bedrooms, bathroom, two reception rooms, kitchen and offices; timber-built hut; Company's gas and water, main drainage. WELL-MATURED GARDEN laid out with lawn, flower borders, shrubs, kitchen garden; the whole comprising about HALF-AN-ACRE.

REDUCED PRICE, £1,750, FREEHOLD.
FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.

UPPINGHAM, RUTLANDSHIRE

IMPORTANT AUCTION SALE of the well-known SCHOOL HOUSE, distinguished as

"CONSTABLES," UPPINGHAM,

consequent upon the school authorities having acquired larger premises. Occupying an important position in the High Street, having an imposing elevation, and containing

Twelve bedrooms, dressing room, three bathrooms, three reception rooms, dining room, dormitories for 35 boys.

RANGE OF SUBSTANTIAL BUILDINGS,

including 26 study rooms, storeroom, three-stall stable, large open yard, two fives courts, etc., etc.

FOX & SONS are favoured with instructions to SELL by AUCTION, at the London Auction Mart, 155, Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C., on Wednesday, March 28th, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. precisely.

Solicitor, T. M. SHERRIN, Esq., 10, Grand Parade, Bournemouth, W.

Auctioneers, Messrs. FOX & SONS, Bournemouth and Southampton.



HINDHEAD, SURREY

Beautiful scenery; five minutes' walk of the famous Devil's Punch Bowl.

A VERY CHARMING MODERN HOUSE designed in the old-world style, approached by carriage drive, and containing five bedrooms, bathroom, boxroom, two reception rooms, lounge hall, kitchen and complete offices; central heating, main water, gas, electric light; garage. The garden is well arranged, and includes lawns, crazy paved terrace, and the whole extending to an area of about ONE ACRE. PRICE £3,225, FREEHOLD. FOX & SONS, Land Agents, Bournemouth.



CITY OF WINCHESTER

Occupying a beautiful position overlooking the City and well away from main road traffic.

FOR SALE, the above well-constructed Freehold RESIDENCE commanding excellent views, and containing the following well-arranged accommodation: Five bedrooms, bathroom, three reception rooms, hall, kitchen and offices; electric light, Company's gas and water, main drainage; garage; greenhouse.

THE GARDENS AND GROUNDS include full-sized tennis lawn, flower borders, fruit and kitchen garden.

PRICE £3,000, FREEHOLD.
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AN HISTORICAL GEORGIAN RESIDENCE, with WONDERFUL ADAMS CEILINGS AND GRATES; five beautiful reception rooms, large billiard room, ten bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms; capital stabling and garage.

FINE WELL-STOCKED GARDENS and land; in all about

100 ACRES.

THE PRICE ASKED FOR THIS VERY CHARMING AND HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ESTATE is far below the actual cost.

Full particulars from the Agents, DUNCAN B. GRAY and PARTNERS, 129, Mount Street, W. 1.

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Under four miles very important town.

FOR IMMEDIATE DISPOSAL.

SINGULARLY ATTRACTIVE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, with ten bedrooms, three bathrooms and three reception rooms.

Fine buildings. Two cottages.

NICELY MATURED GARDENS AND LAND; in all ABOUT 60 ACRES.

NOMINAL PRICE.

Agents, DUNCAN B. GRAY & PARTNERS, 129, Mount Street, W. 1.

BERKSHIRE



In the favourite Newbury district, on high ground and affording good views.

THIS CHARMING SMALL ESTATE.

FINE OLD ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE, with

LOUNGE HALL, FOUR RECEPTION ROOMS,

FIFTEEN BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, BATH AND AMPLE OFFICES.

EXCELLENT RANGE OF MODERN BUILDINGS.

Four very superior cottages.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS; in all

38 ACRES.

(More land up to 130 acres if desired.)

Thoroughly recommended by the Sole Agents, as above.

NORFOLK & SUFFOLK BORDERS



THIS VERY CHARMING ESTATE OF 305 ACRES.

DELIGHTFUL WELL-ARRANGED RESIDENCE, containing lounge hall, three reception rooms, eleven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms and complete offices.

Garage with rooms over. Stabling and other buildings.

BEAUTIFUL GARDENS, including tennis court, paddock and orchard. Three farms. Two cottages.

PRICE £8,000

(CLOSE OFFERS SUBMITTED FOR EARLY SALE).

Recommended by DUNCAN B. GRAY & PARTNERS, 129, Mount Street, W. 1.

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Within easy reach of Town; close to station, shops, etc.

A WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE, standing high in a healthy position, and containing lounge hall, three reception rooms, six bed and dressing, bathroom, and usual offices.

Ample space for garage and tennis lawn.

FOR SALE AT A MODERATE PRICE.

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SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES
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FORTHCOMING AUCTIONS

FOR SALE PRIVATELY (OR BY AUCTION ON MARCH 28th).

"HALLIFORD LODGE"

UPPER HALLIFORD, NEAR SHEPPERTON, MIDDLESEX.

Seventeen miles south-west of London.

A dignified old Georgian RESIDENCE, on two floors only. Three reception rooms, nine bedrooms, two bathrooms; Co.'s electric light, gas and water, central heating; garage, stabling and cottage; beautiful old walled gardens, generously timbered, orchard and paddocks.

FREEHOLD.

£3,500 WITH SEVEN ACRES.
£4,500 WITH FOURTEEN ACRES.

(Prior to Auction.)

Particulars, plan and photos from the Auctioneers, F. L. MERCER & Co., 7, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W. 1. Tel. Regent 6773.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY (OR BY AUCTION, LOCALLY, ON MARCH 31st).

A fascinating, small old-world House of great charm with 30 ACRES. RICH PASTURE.

"STRUAN"

MARLDON, S. DEVON.

Absolutely in the country, yet within a few miles of Torquay, Paignton and Newton Abbot.

Three reception rooms, five or six bedrooms, bathroom; modern sanitation, main water immediately available; stabling, garage, small farmery, picturesque cottage; delightful old-world gardens; cider orchard and meadow-land.

30 ACRES. FREEHOLD £3,750.

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"DOWNHAM HOUSE"

NEAR BILLERICAY.

A well-maintained Residential and Sporting Property in a favourite part of Essex; easy reach of Chelmsford and 45 minutes from London.

Comprising a charming old red brick Georgian Residence, completely modernised. Lounge hall, three reception rooms, ten bedrooms, three bathrooms; own lighting, main water; garage, stabling, two good cottages, excellent range of buildings; uncommonly attractive pleasure grounds and several enclosures of first-rate pasture.

75 ACRES. FREEHOLD.

£6,000 OR NEAR OFFER.

(Prior to Auction.)

EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY.

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Agents for Herts and Middlesex Properties.



ST. ALBANS DISTRICT (nearly 400ft. up in a nice open rural position away from noise, yet ten minutes shopping centre and a little more from station).—One of the most delightful PROPERTIES in the vicinity, erected regardless of cost; lounge dining room, drawing room (25ft. deep), four good bedrooms, expensively equipped bathroom, etc.; central heating, electric light, gas, Company's water, splendid hot water system, telephone; garage for two cars; one-and-a-half acres charming grounds, including hard tennis court, pretty rock garden, lily pond, rose gardens, lawns, orchard, two kitchen gardens, etc. Price £3,150. Freehold.—Apply STIMPSON, LOCK & VINCE, as above. (Folio S.A. 529.)

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CHARMING MODERN RESIDENCE, beautifully situated with 27 ACRES OF WELL-ESTABLISHED GROUNDS AND PASTURELAND; eight bedrooms, bathroom, hall, three reception rooms, etc.; GOOD STABLING AND GARAGE.

ONLY £5,000. FREEHOLD.

Near old-world village. GOOD FREE HUNTING.

WHATLEY & CO. in conjunction with DAVEY & CO.

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£2,750 THREE-AND-A-HALF MILES FROM CIRENCESTER. — TO BE SOLD, gentleman's old-fashioned stone-built and stone-tiled RESIDENCE or HUNTING BOX, approached by a short carriage drive; three reception, conservatory, eight bed and dressing rooms, bathroom; stabling five, garage; gardens and grounds of about two-and-a-quarter acres; good lodge cottage; about 75 acres of land, principally fertile pasture, with two cottages, can also be had if required.—For further particulars apply to the SOLE AGENTS, WHATLEY & CO., Estate Agents, Cirencester; or DAVEY & CO., LTD., 113, White Ladies Road, Bristol. (3/262).

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BY DIRECTION OF GEORGE ROSE, ESQ.

AN UNSPOILT BEAUTY SPOT.

ONLY 25 MINUTES FROM TOWN.

MIDDLESEX

ONE MILE FROM UXBRIDGE, HILLINGDON AND ICKENHAM.

VALUABLE PORTIONS OF THE

HAREFIELD PLACE ESTATE

SITUATED ON HIGH GROUND BETWEEN UXBRIDGE AND HAREFIELD, AND ADJOINING THE NEW STATION AT SOUTH HAREFIELD.



Comprising several lots of valuable

**FREEHOLD
BUILDING LAND.**

WITH ABOUT THREE MILES
OF ROAD FRONTAGES AND
RIPE FOR IMMEDIATE
DEVELOPMENT.



Also the imposing GEORGIAN MANSION, suitable for school or institution; in all about

700 ACRES.

FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, IN LOTS, AT AN EARLY DATE (if not Sold Privately in the meantime).

Further particulars from the Auctioneers, CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W. 1.

EMINENTLY SUITABLE FOR SCHOOL OR INSTITUTION.

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CLOSE TO WHEATHAMPSTEAD STATION, TWO MILES FROM HATFIELD, AND FOUR MILES FROM HERTFORD.



THIS DIGNIFIED CASTELLATED MANSION,

"WHEATHAMPSTEAD HOUSE," WHEATHAMPSTEAD.

Situated amidst beautiful surroundings, over 300ft. above sea level, approached by two carriage drives, and containing:

Double lounge hall, four reception rooms, billiards room, about 22 bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, and complete domestic offices.

MAIN DRAINAGE. ACETYLENE LIGHTING. EXCELLENT WATER SUPPLY.

COTTAGE. STABLING FOR TEN. GARAGES FOR EIGHT CARS.

Charming GROUNDS AND PLEASURE GARDENS; in all about EIGHTEEN ACRES. Also SMALL DAIRY FARM, with capital farmhouse, buildings, and pastureland extending to 25 ACRES; the total area of the estate being nearly

48 ACRES.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY, OR BY AUCTION, IN LOTS, IN APRIL NEXT.

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HAMPSHIRE

Midway between Winchester and Southampton.

THIS DELIGHTFUL AND BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, known as

MERDON, CHANDLER'S FORD.

Occupying a perfectly secluded position, approached by two carriage drives, and containing panelled lounge hall, three reception rooms, billiards room, excellent domestic offices, twelve bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING. COMPANY'S WATER. MAIN DRAINAGE. TELEPHONE. CONSTANT HOT WATER. GRAVEL SOIL.

Garage. Excellent secondary House. Stabling

VERY BEAUTIFUL PARK-LIKE GARDENS AND GROUNDS, including pleasure lawns, pretty formal garden, tennis lawns, woodland walks, prolific kitchen gardens, virgin heather and woodland with chain of ornamental lakes; the whole beautifully timbered and extending to about

20 ACRES.

MESSRS. CONSTABLE & MAUDE will offer the above by PUBLIC AUCTION, at The Dolphin Hotel, Southampton, on Friday, April 20th, 1928 (unless previously Sold Privately). Illustrated particulars from the Solicitor, J. C. DOMINY, Esq., 1, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hants; or of the Auctioneers, as above.

BY ORDER OF LADY BARKER.

HIGH UP.

LOVELY VIEWS.

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDERS

Three-and-a-half miles from Goudhurst Station, one mile from Flimwell Village, four from Hawkhurst, and eleven from Tunbridge Wells.

THE ATTRACTIVE, OLD-FASHIONED FREEHOLD PROPERTY,
FLIMWELL GRANGE, NEAR HAWKHURST.

Occupying a magnificent position with extensive views, due south, approached by two drives. Containing lounge hall, three reception rooms, ten bed and dressing rooms, bathroom, usual domestic offices.

TWO ENTRANCE LODGES. GARDENER'S COTTAGE. GARAGE. STABLING.

The PLEASURE GARDENS include many fine specimen trees and shrubs, tennis and other lawns, rose garden, pretty woodland walks, kitchen garden and orchard, with three meadows; the total area extends to about

33 ACRES.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY NOW, OR BY AUCTION AT AN EARLY DATE.

Full particulars from the Auctioneers, CONSTABLE & MAUDE, 2, Mount Street, W. 1.



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DUKE OF BEAUFORT'S HUNT

HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, standing 400ft. above sea level and with southern aspect. Accommodation: Three reception rooms, library and billiard room, adequate domestic offices, approached by principal and secondary staircases are fifteen bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms.

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STABLING FOR TEN. GROOM'S QUARTERS. GARAGE.
TWO EXCELLENT COTTAGES.
PLEASURE GROUNDS, INCLUDING FLOWER GARDEN AND TENNIS LAWN.

EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICE OF £3,750, FREEHOLD.

HUNTING WITH THREE PACKS, AND WITHIN EASY REACH OF GOLF LINKS.

Recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Estate Offices, Rugby. (R 7205.)

IN ONE OF THE FINEST PARTS OF HEREFORDSHIRE

WITH FRONTAGE TO THE WYE, BETWEEN
HEREFORD AND HAY.

TO BE SOLD, at a moderate price, an attractive RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, occupying a very beautiful situation some 300ft. above sea level, with grounds and meadows running down to the Wye to which the property possesses frontage. The House is of the most substantial character, solidly built of stone, and contains four reception rooms, some twelve bed and dressing rooms, and three bathrooms; first-class model stabling and garage, cottage attached, also two other cottages. The total area is just over 40 ACRES, or the house will be SOLD with the grounds only, including the frontage to the Wye. PRICE for the Home Portion, £4,250, or for the whole Property, £5,750.—Inspected and recommended by the Sole Agents, JAMES STYLES and WHITLOCK, 44, St. James' Place, London, S.W.1. (L 3721.)

IN A DELIGHTFUL PART OF THE COTSWOLD HILLS

A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY of MODERATE SIZE IN FIRST-RATE ORDER.—To be SOLD, a most substantial stone-built Residence, occupying a sheltered situation, facing full south, and commanding a delightful view of the wooded hills. Accommodation: Central hall, four reception rooms, twelve bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, and good offices; all conveniences installed, including electric light, central heating. The stabling comprises four loose boxes, two stalls, and there are two garages. Two excellent modern cottages, each containing sitting room, kitchen, three bedrooms. The pleasure grounds are of great natural beauty and inexpensive of upkeep. Small farmery with farmhouse, cow sheds, loose boxes, etc. The land is all pasture and of high quality; total area being about 45 ACRES.—Inspected and strongly recommended by the Sole Agents, JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James' Place, London, S.W.1. (L 7173.)

**TO BE LET AT A VERY MODERATE RENT WITH
SHOOTING OVER 2,000 ACRES.**

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In a good sporting district, five miles from main line station.

THE RESIDENCE is completely equipped with electric light, etc., and contains four reception rooms, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, three bathrooms, and usual offices; modern drainage. LODGE, STABLING, GARAGE. Spacious gardens, including tennis court, woodland walks, with stream, etc. TROUT FISHING, HUNTING, GOLF. The House is very well furnished, with many genuine Chippendale pieces. To be LET. Furnished for a term of years, at a low rent to a good tenant. A short tenancy would also be considered on an Unfurnished lease. Apply JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, 44, St. James' Place, London, S.W.1. (T R 1044.)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

600FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

AN ATTRACTIVE STONE-BUILT RESIDENCE, containing three reception rooms six bedrooms, and excellent domestic offices.

GARDENER'S COTTAGE.

GARAGE.

Tastefully laid-out GROUNDS, with tennis lawn; in all about

THREE ACRES.

GOLF, HUNTING and POLO may be enjoyed in the vicinity.

PRICE £3,750, WITH POSSESSION.

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MAIDENHEAD (Tel. 54).

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WINDSOR (Tel. 73).

ON A SPUR OF THE CHILTERN



Between TAPLOW and MARLOW, high up with wonderful panoramic views over the Thames Valley.

£4,250—This most attractive FREEHOLD RESIDENCE known as

"UNDER RIDGE."

containing lounge hall, three reception, six bed, two bath and model offices; every convenience, including electric light, central heating, gas, water and telephone, etc.

Lodge. Garage for several cars.

Well laid-out terraced grounds on southern slope with HARD TENNIS COURT, kitchen garden and paddock; about

FIVE ACRES.

N.B.—Capital BOATHOUSE and RIVER GARDEN may be purchased if desired.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY OR BY AUCTION IN MAY.

Sole Agents, GIDDYS, Maidenhead.

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In the beautiful district of COOKHAM DEAN, 300ft. up, with fine views. London is only 40 minutes by rail.

"RONDELS."

THIS WELL-APPOINTED COUNTRY HOUSE, containing panelled lounge hall, three reception, three bath, nine bed and dressing rooms and excellent offices.

ELECTRIC LIGHT, TELEPHONE, ETC. Garage for three cars and men's rooms.

CHARMING GROUNDS with tennis court, paved rose garden, etc., kitchen garden and two paddocks; in all about

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BETWEEN

MAIDENHEAD AND READING

Only 40 minutes' rail Paddington.

TO BE SOLD,

THIS FINE OLD GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE, of medium size, containing lounge hall and three reception rooms, eleven bedrooms, bathroom, etc.; all modern conveniences.

ELECTRIC LIGHT. MAIN WATER. CENTRAL HEATING.

GARAGES. LODGE. COTTAGES.

The grounds are particularly charming, beautifully timbered with fine lawns, rose, herbaceous and vegetable gardens, etc.; in all about

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Strongly recommended as a residence of dignity and character, not too large, in an excellent neighbourhood.

Full particulars of the Owner's Agents, GIDDYS, Maidenhead.

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EASY DRIVE SANDRINGHAM.—Gentleman's choice ESTATE of 810 acres, with fine old country hall with oak panelling, and approached by beautiful double avenue; central heating, electric light; inexpensive grounds; three electrically-lit garages, hunting boxes, excellent farmbuildings, cottages; racecourse on estate, with fine hunting and good shooting; practically tithe free. Price £30,000.—Apply Woodcock & Son, as above.

SUFFOLK COAST TWO-AND-A-HALF MILES (four from Aldeburgh, with famous golf and boating).—Attractive old-fashioned COUNTRY HALL, dated 1662, with bailiff's house and farm of 301 acres; good buildings and cottages; excellent shooting, golf, fishing near by. Freehold £8,250.—Apply Woodcock & Son, as above.

THE BLACKMORE VALE CENTRE

TO LET, FURNISHED.



"VEN,"

MILBORNE PORT,
NEAR SHERBORNE,
DORSET.

Fine avenue and timbered park, attractive gardens and grounds.

Large hall, Four reception rooms, Billiard room, Sixteen bedrooms, Bathrooms, Lavatories.

Very complete domestic offices and servants' quarters; electric light, Central heating.

Luggage lift. Stabling ten horses.

Garages. Paddocks. Apply Messrs. EDENS, Estate Office, Sherborne, Dorset.

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RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

Telephones:
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BEAUTIFUL GUILDFORD DISTRICT

On high ground, 40 minutes from Town.



PERFECTLY EQUIPPED RESIDENCE, in excellent order, with all modern conveniences; large lounge hall, three reception and billiard room, loggia, fourteen bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms; garage, lodge, two cottages, farmery. **TIMBERED GROUNDS** with many BEAUTIFUL FEATURES.

NEARLY 25 ACRES.

FOR SALE, FREEHOLD, OR MIGHT BE LET, FURNISHED.

Very highly recommended by Sole Agents, RALPH PAY and TAYLOR.

FURNISHED COUNTRY HOUSES

FOR SUMMER MONTHS.

SUSSEX AND SURREY BORDERS.
A VERY FINE XVTH CENTURY RESIDENCE standing in a beautiful park; 20 bed and dressing rooms, four bathrooms, five reception and billiard; electric light. **HARD AND GRASS TENNIS COURTS, FISHING.** FROM EASTER FOR SUMMER MONTHS.

Beautifully situated on the most superb stretch of the **DEVON COAST.**

FINE OLD HISTORICAL CASTLE, carefully and perfectly modernised, standing amidst delightful surroundings, facing the sea; fifteen bedrooms, six bathrooms, handsome suite of reception rooms; electric light; garden and grounds of great charm. **TROUT FISHING, SEA BATHING and ANCHORAGE** in the **PRIVATE HARBOUR.** TO LET FROM JULY.

ADJOINING

WALTON HEATH GOLF COURSE.

Very charming **WELL-FURNISHED RESIDENCE.** Eight bedrooms, three bathrooms, three reception rooms. Central heating. Delightful garden with tennis court.

RENT 18 GUINEAS PER WEEK.

FROM APRIL, FOR THREE or FOUR MONTHS.

A DETAILED SELECTION OF SEVERAL **BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED RESIDENCES** IN THE MOST FAVOURED DISTRICTS

Can be obtained of RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

NEAR WALTON HEATH

550FT. UP.



WELL-APPOINTED

MODERN GEORGIAN RESIDENCE.

occupying a beautiful sunny position, with full southern exposure and commanding fine views; close to the famous golf course; nine bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, three reception, servants' hall; electric light, Company's water; stabling, garage.

PICTURESQUE GARDENS, including tennis court.

PRICE £5,000 with FIVE ACRES, or £4,400 with TWO ACRES.

WOULD BE LET, FURNISHED.

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR, as above.

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THE WILLETT BUILDING, SLOANE SQUARE, S.W.1

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CHISLEHURST—ON THE GOLF COURSE

WILLETT-BUILT RESIDENCE.



FREEHOLD £6,500.

Sole Agents, WILLIAM WILLETT, LTD., Sloane Square, S.W. 1.

Eight bed and dressing rooms,
Three bathrooms,
Three reception rooms,
Lounge hall, etc.

All modern conveniences: luxuriously appointed.

ONE ACRE GROUNDS.

TENNIS COURT.

Large detached garage.

REIGATE—500FT. UP, WITH LOVELY VIEWS

SMALL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL ESTATE.



FOURTEEN ACRES.

£11,000 INCLUDING 2,000FT. VALUABLE BUILDING FRONTAGE.
Sole Agents, WILLIAM WILLETT, LTD., Sloane Square, S.W. 1.

Twelve bed and dressing rooms,
Three bathrooms,
Four reception rooms, etc.
Central heating, independent hot water.
Parquet floors.
Oak panelling.
Lodge. Garage.
Outbuildings.
WITH 3 ACRES.
£5,000.
Or with farmery, additional garage and stabling, hard tennis court, squash court and five cottages; in all about

Telephone:
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F. D. IBBETT & CO., F.A.I.

AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS, SEVENOAKS, KENT

And at
Oxted, Surrey.

BY DIRECTION OF TRUSTEES.

GODDEN GREEN, NEAR SEVENOAKS

Close to the Wildernesse and Knole Park Golf Course.

DELIGHTFUL FREEHOLD RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. Comfortable HOUSE, with ten principal bed and dressing rooms, three servants' bedrooms, bath, two staircases, good hall, four reception rooms, excellent billiard room, and complete offices.

MODERN STABLING, GARAGE, TWO COTTAGES, GARDENER'S LODGE, FARMERY, GLASSHOUSES.

Beautiful and old-established gardens, woodland and parklands; in all about

43 ACRES.

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VACANT POSSESSION.

HEREFORDSHIRE

Five miles from Ross-on-Wye, nine miles from Hereford.

"HOW CAPLE GRANGE," with 116 ACRES.

THE RESIDENCE contains entrance hall, lounge hall, three reception rooms, seven principal bedrooms, four servants' bedrooms, two bathrooms, domestic offices; garage, stabling, three tennis courts; bailiff's house and farmery, five cottages, etc.; electric lighting, central heating, modern sanitation, ample water supply.

To be SOLD by AUCTION as a whole or in convenient lots by

H. K. FOSTER & GRACE (in conjunction with CHESTERTON & SONS), at the Law Society's Rooms, East Street, Hereford, on Wednesday, April 18th, 1928.

Solicitors, Messrs. ELYN ROBB & Co., 19, Bedford Row, W.C. 1.



Auctioneers, Messrs. H. K. FOSTER & GRACE, 26, Broad Street, Hereford; Messrs. CHESTERTON & SONS, 116, Kensington High Street, W. 8; 1, Cadogan Place, S.W. 1; and 79, Queen Street, E.C.4.

BRUTON, KNOWLES & CO.

ESTATE AGENTS,

SURVEYORS AND AUCTIONEERS,

ALBION CHAMBERS, KING STREET,

Telegrams: "Brutons, Gloucester." GLOUCESTER.

Telephone: No. 967 (two lines).

DRUIDSTONE, BROADHAVEN (Pemb.).—For SALE, an attractive modern stone-built RESIDENCE, standing alone on the edge of the cliffs, commanding lovely views over St. Bride's Bay, with one-third mile frontage to sea; four reception, garden room, ten bed and dressing rooms, bath, and offices; bathing hut, cottage, stabling and garage; grounds of about one acre, croquet lawn, and 241 acres of pastureland; very dry and warm climate; hunting, fishing, shooting. Price £3,000.—Full particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., Estate Agents, Gloucester.

OXON (three miles from Burford and Witney).—A first-class and well-farmed ESTATE of 330 acres. Exceptionally good House, with hall, three sitting, five principal beds, servants' bedroom, bath, two attics, excellent offices; electric light; garden with tennis lawn; stone built farmbuildings, three cottages, entrance lodge; one mile of trout fishing, good shooting; in the Heythrop Hunt. Price £5,500.—Full particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., Estate Agents, Gloucester. (W 196.)

GLOS (in one of the most beautiful parts of the Cotswolds).—Attractive RESIDENTIAL and AGRICULTURAL ESTATE, comprising charming old stone-built RESIDENCE (four reception, billiard, seven beds, bath, four good attics); farmbuildings, garage, two lodges; about 229 acres; central heating, good water supply. Vacant possession.—Full particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., Albion Chambers, Gloucester. (A 88.)

GLOS (on the Cotswolds).—Charming Georgian RESIDENCE, close to famous golf links, and hunting with the Badminton and Berkeley packs; three reception, billiard, eleven beds, bath; electric light; stabling, lodge, two cottages; attractive grounds with ornamental water; about seven-and-a-quarter acres. Price £4,400.—Full particulars of BRUTON, KNOWLES & Co., Albion Chambers, Gloucester. (F 43.)

HUNTING MAN'S IDEAL PROPERTY at Horley, Surrey. Well-built Residence (three reception, six bed, bath, etc.); loose boxes; about 20 acres. Freehold £6,000.—GLADDING, SON & WING, 8/11, Pavilion Buildings, Brighton.

OFF BEATEN TRACK IN SUSSEX.—An attractive small RESIDENTIAL ESTATE, 54 acres, all grass. Modern House (two reception, four bed, bath, etc.); suitable pigs, cows and poultry. Freehold £3,850.—GLADDING, SON and WING, 8/11, Pavilion Buildings, Brighton.

Telephone: Regent 7500.
Telegrams:
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(For continuation of advertisements see pages vi. and viii.)

Branches: Wimbledon
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BEAUTIFUL POSITION 400FT. UP. FINE VIEWS OVER SOUTH DOWNS.

HANTS

Amidst lovely country, one mile from main line station with frequent service to Town.

FOR SALE,

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN FREEHOLD RESIDENCE.—

Hall, three reception rooms, seven bedrooms, bathroom.

Company's water. Modern drainage. Electric light available.

GARAGE. STABLING. BUNGALOW.

Tastefully laid-out grounds, tennis lawn, kitchen garden, paddock, and orchard, etc.; in all about

SEVEN ACRES.

GOLF.

HUNTING.

Agents, Messrs. HALL, PAIN & FOSTER, Estate Agents, Lavant Street, Petersfield, or

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (H 39,831.)



ONLY ELEVEN MILES FROM TOWN.

HERTS AND MIDDLESEX BORDERS

360FT. TO 400FT. UP. PROTECTED FROM NORTH.

EXTENSIVE VIEWS.

"WOODSIDE," ELSTREE.

COMFORTABLE FREEHOLD RESIDENCE, with drive approach, containing seven bedrooms, dressing lobby, bathroom, two staircases, entrance and lounge halls, three reception rooms and ample offices; two excellent garages; delightful pleasure, woodland, kitchen and fruit gardens; in all just over ONE ACRE. Also adjoining THREE BUILDING SITES, each of over ONE ACRE. Company's gas, water and electric light, also main drainage.

VACANT POSSESSION.

To be SOLD by AUCTION (in conjunction with Messrs. LOFTS & WARNER), at the St. James' Estate Rooms, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1, on Tuesday, MARCH 27TH, 1928, at 2.30 p.m. (unless Sold Privately), in ONE or FOUR LOTS.

Solicitors, Messrs. POWELL, BURT & LAMARSON, 28-29, St. Swithin's Lane, London, E.C. 4.

Particulars from Messrs. LOFTS & WARNER, 130, Mount Street, Grosvenor Square, S.W. 1, or from the Auctioneers,

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1.



IN THE BEAUTIFUL DISTRICT OF TOTLAND BAY

IDEAL SITUATION WITH LOVELY VIEWS.

FOR SALE unusually attractive RESIDENCE, on high ground in retired position; hall, four reception, eleven bed and dressing rooms, two bathrooms, servants' hall. Company's water and gas. Main drainage. Electric light.

Entrance lodge of seven rooms. Garage.

REALLY BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS OF OVER

TWO ACRES.

Two tennis lawns, flower and kitchen garden, etc. Small

SECONDARY RESIDENCE. Might be Sold without the smaller residence.

Apply W. J. WATERHOUSE, Esq., Estate Agent, Totland Bay; and

HAMPTON & SONS, 20, St. James' Square, S.W. 1. (H 39,894.)



HERTS

Within five minutes' walk from station; good service to Town.

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MOSES SMITH, LUCE, DAVIES & CO. have received instructions to offer for SALE by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, on Thursday, March 15th, 1928, at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions of Sale, all that valuable Property, most pleasantly situated facing due south, on the main Bristol-Gloucester Road, between the villages of Falfield and Stone, in the centre of the Berkeley Hunt, and within easy distance of most of the Beaufort Meets, known as "The Gables," with tennis and other lawns, intersected with ornamental trees and flower borders, walled-in garden well stocked with fruit trees, orchard and pastureland adjoining; the whole containing 4a. 1r. 11p. (more or less). The Residence comprises, on the ground floor, entrance hall, three reception rooms, two indoor lavatories, kitchen, larder, pantry, laundry, workshop, coalhouse and garage; on the first floor, five bedrooms, two dressing rooms, bathroom and lavatory. The outbuildings consist of two-stall stable with harness room. The coach-house is now used for the electric light generating plant. There is a good supply of both hard and soft water which is pumped to the top of the house. The Property has recently been modernised with up-to-date sanitary arrangements and every convenience. The mines and minerals are reserved. To view on weekdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. by order.—Further particulars and photos of the Auctioneers, Thornbury and Bristol; or of Messrs. NALDER and LITTLER, Solicitors, Shepton Mallet.



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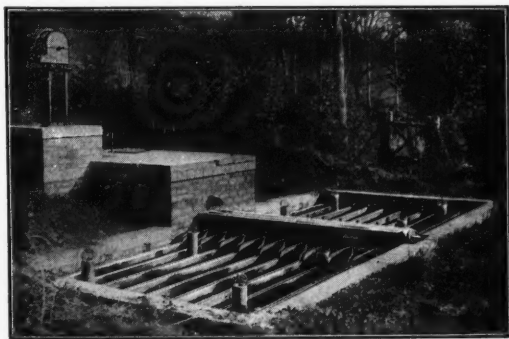
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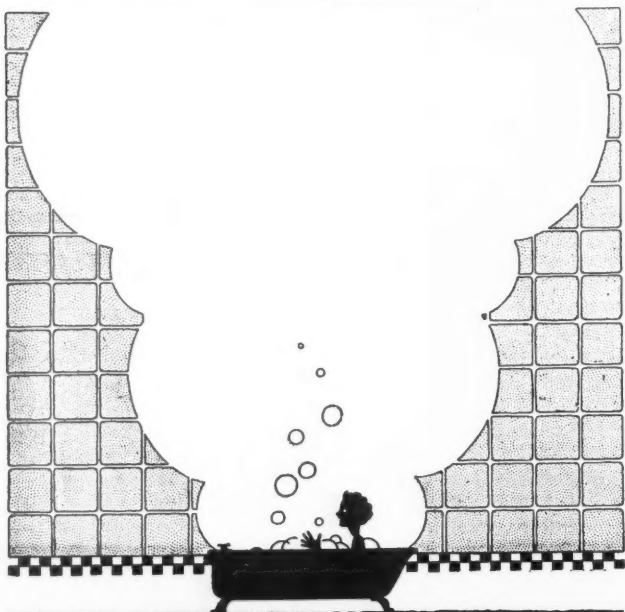
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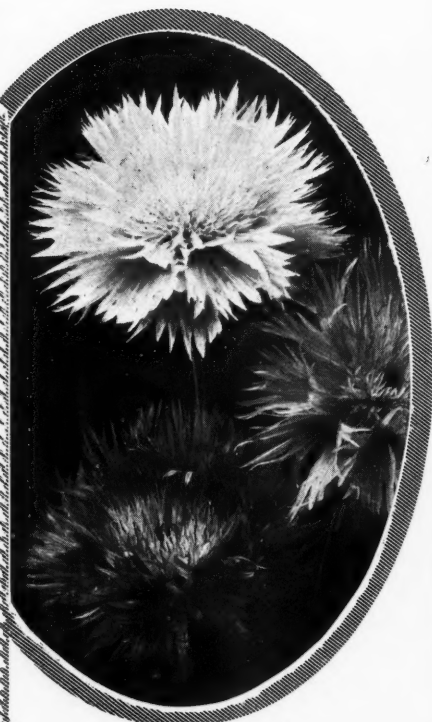


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EDITORIAL NOTICE

The Editor will be glad to consider any MSS., photographs and sketches submitted to him, if accompanied by stamped addressed envelope for return, if unsuitable.

COUNTRY LIFE undertakes no responsibility for loss or injury to such MSS., photographs or sketches, and only publication in COUNTRY LIFE can be taken as evidence of acceptance.

ARCHITECTS AND MODERNISM

MODERNISM in Architecture was the subject of a supper discussion held by the Architecture Club last week following on a stimulating display of lantern slides, by Mr. Yerbury, of recent buildings from all over Europe. What was most striking in the discussion—even more than the pictures of Le Corbusier's settings for an unpleasantly abstract mode of life—was the non-committal attitude of the representative architects present. The photographs were a testimony to Mr. Yerbury's eye for the points of modern architecture; but both he and the subsequent speakers, while substantially welcoming these new ideas, were obviously inclined to hedge. The impression given was of tolerant scepticism. If time and experience prove modern methods to be a practical advance, one feels that English architects will skilfully adopt them. Indeed, photographs of what they have already done guarantee that they have it in them to go one better than the foreigner by combining with cleanly conceived structure the English quality of grace. This æsthetic "Wait and see" policy, this unwillingness immediately to push æsthetic theories to their farthest possibilities has, after all, characterised English architecture from the earliest times. Our Gothic, our Renaissance,

our Georgian buildings show identical caution in the acceptance of ideas and a similar conservatism of attitude towards domestic requirements. The predominantly practical mentality of Englishmen has procured for them in every age a less ambitious version of the architecture prevailing upon the Continent. But, although this caution has ensured against lapses into the ridiculous, it has also interfered with our achieving the sublime.

In the more abstract sections of architecture, such as cathedral building, this gentle caution has been something of a disadvantage. Having been afraid of failure, we have failed to produce anything quite so overwhelming as the cathedrals of, say, Albi or Rheims, or, in a later age, anything so gorgeous as St. Peter's or the baroque palaces of Germany. But, in recompense, our subdued climate, the smallness of our island's scale and that balance of mind which is common sense and sense of humour give to English art a composure and humanity which is—to us, at any rate—as beautiful as the grander achievements of Continental peoples. If, in abstract architecture, we tend to fall short of perfection, in domestic architecture we have been equivalently successful. Our preference for actual, over possible, ways of living, and for comfort over extravagance has given us Hampton Court in the place of Versailles and our country house instead of the *château*, the *Schloss* and the *palazzo*. As works of art our domestic buildings may be inferior to Continental examples; but, as homes—from which our conception of houses is inseparable—they give greater scope for excellent life than any others.

Nowadays, indeed, we are experiencing the defects of this virtue. The "home beautiful," as the advertisements have it, of the bulk of our contemporaries is, unfortunately, the half-timbered cottage of the countryside. Excellent as this affection for the traditional may be, its effect has been disastrous on the provision of homes for the multitude. The more obvious features of cottages have been standardised and mass-produced, and, in place of the grandly architected housing schemes of, for instance, Amsterdam or Vienna, England is being covered by sham incongruities in never-ending rows. The taste for the picturesque, once a "modernism" for intellectuals, has become the commonplace. Happily, signs are not wanting that our love of domesticity is beginning to change its channel. The "home of the future" at the Ideal Home Exhibition is a welcome change from faked homes of the past, and, although the thing is, naturally, an exhibition "stunt," it is an excellent piece of design, preferable in plan and amenity, if not in appearance, to the similar experiments at the Stuttgart Exhibition last year and to Le Corbusier's "houses" in France. No doubt, the popular verdict upon it is "dreadful, unthinkable"; but, as its points gradually sink into the popular subconsciousness, the demand for sham half-timbering will diminish, and we may anticipate a general move towards saner, simpler houses. As in the past, English architects will find ways of combining these new ideas with the old essentials of the home. Some have, in fact, done so already, as Mr. Louis de Soissons at Welwyn Garden City. Moreover, in works unaffected by the domestic tradition, as, for example, Mr. Maxwell Ayrton's new concrete bridges, there is a large sincerity of design and an eagerness to combine engineering with architecture that is in the highest degree reassuring for the future of both these arts. But modernism for its own sake will always be deprecated in this country. We shall evolve a new national style, in order to be more sensible, cheaper, healthier. But not in order to be modernist.

Our Frontispiece

OUR frontispiece this week is a portrait of Lady Jean Crichton-Stuart, whose engagement to the Hon. James Bertie, youngest son of the Earl and Countess of Abingdon, was recently announced. Lady Jean Crichton-Stuart is the younger daughter of the Marquess and Marchioness of Bute.

* * * It is particularly requested that no permission to photograph houses, gardens or livestock on behalf of COUNTRY LIFE be granted, except when direct application is made from the offices of the paper.



COUNTRY NOTES.

WE are glad to see that the Minister of Agriculture has set up a Pig Industry Council to consider the circumstances affecting pig production in England and Wales, with special reference to methods of marketing and to the requirements of the home market, to recommend from time to time, with the object of increasing the home production both of pork and bacon. It is high time that all sections of the pig industry came together, and the chairmanship of Sir Alfred Mond leads to the hope that the difficult questions involved will be tackled in a business-like and far-seeing manner. First must come the elimination of petty differences between the breed societies. The Ministry of Agriculture has already started on the right lines by its courageous and much criticised pronouncement regarding the most suitable type of pig for commercial bacon-production, and progress should be steadfastly maintained along these lines. Next come the problems of the factories, both private and co-operative, at present working at one-half or less of their capacities, with at least a third of their pigs unsuitable for first-class trade. None of them has yet had the courage to offer an adequate price for quality and continuity of supplies. Until they can do so they will not get the pigs they want, and control of the market will remain with the foreigner. It is a mistake to regard the pig industry as a side line of British agriculture. The value of pig-meat sold annually off the farms of England and Wales is estimated at £26,000,000, which is more than the value of all the cereals put together, and the immense imports indicate how greatly this figure could be increased if prices for producers could but be made remunerative.

THE death of Sir Harry Poland in his ninety-ninth year removes a notable figure, not only from the Bar, but from English life in general. He would have become a legend in his own lifetime if his occasional letters to the newspapers, usually on some legal subject, had not proved how very much he was still alive, alert and full of interests. He had retired for over thirty years, so that only the older members of the Bar can recall him in his harness; but many others will remember the familiar figure, with its characteristic broad black tie in a bow, often to be seen in the Temple after his time of leisure had come. To the general public Sir Harry was chiefly of interest as a link with a now dim past. He could remember many things that now seem almost beyond the scope of personal memory. He had been at the Duke of Wellington's funeral and had seen Nelson's statue hoisted to its lofty eminence in Trafalgar Square, a place which it seems to us to have occupied from time immemorial. He had known nine Chief Justices; he had held a junior's brief with the great Cockburn to lead him. All of us would wish for old age if we could hope to retain so fresh and vivid an interest in life as Poland did.

EVERY year the wanton destruction of wild flowers increases. In many areas hawkers and gipsies have rooted out fern and daffodil and even the humble primrose. Apart from this raiding for profit, there is the further attack by children and, worst of all, predatory motorists. The trouble is that there is, in most places, no satisfactory mechanism for self-protection; for the existing law of trespass, with its complications of proving damage, is not easily stretched to cover wild flowers, and the landowner who invokes it is, inevitably, put to trouble and expense. That people should pick wild flowers is natural, and, within limits, excusable; but that they should steal the roots is unforgivable. A sand pit on Hayes Common was painstakingly replanted with foxgloves by a flower lover, and later found completely pillaged of every root. Hawkiers will steal flowering shrubs and even saplings from plantations. These latter cases cross the border from civil to criminal action, and are easier to deal with effectively; but the whole business of plant and flower hunting is an increasingly serious nuisance, leading to the disturbance of coverts, nesting birds and game and the despoliation of the natural beauties of the countryside. Some county councils have already passed by-laws prohibiting the uprooting of wild plants, and it would be as well if all counties were to adopt similar regulations.

DR. A. J. FINBERG, the acknowledged authority on Turner, successfully edified the distinguished member of the Government who informed the Commons that he knew no reason for recommending the removal of the Turner Bequest from the Tate Gallery. Quite apart from the fact that the basement of the gallery has been shown to be peculiarly ill suited for the storage of anything perishable, there is no sensible reason why Turner's thousands of sketches, which are documents rather than works of art, ever should have been stowed away in those cellars, where there is neither the accommodation nor the staff necessary even for the occasional reference requirements of students. As well say that Gainsborough's letters or Blake's manuscripts should be consigned to the vaults of the National Gallery. Turner's sketch books provide a complete record of the artistic development of a great artist from his fourteenth to his seventieth year of a kind that does not exist in the case of any other painter of his calibre. The Print Room at the British Museum has ample accommodation both for storage and reference, and an admirable staff. Moreover, it is the recognised depository for such artistic documents as rough sketches, which are not exhibition objects in themselves, and are fully appreciated only by the special student.

FANTASY.

I saw a little cloud to-day
And perched thereon the gladdest thing!
A feathered boy, with plumes astray,
Which was the new-born infant, Spring.

This imp so merrily did ride
Above the bare and vacant lands,
Earth laughed and rocked from side to side,
The trees all woke and clapped their hands.

And gardens, taken by surprise,
From chilly beds, rose every one,
Opened wide a million eyes
And, dancing, ran to meet the sun!

MARGARET SACKVILLE.

THE Rugby match between the Navy and the Army is one of the matches of the year. Like the University match, it has its own atmosphere and its own public, which will be more moved by it than by any International. It can always be relied on to produce a fine, hard, clean game, in which great reputations gained in other fields do not count overmuch, and two teams, which are essentially teams, fight like tigers for the honour and glory of their respective Services. On the other hand, it does not always produce a supreme display of skill, for the circumstances are almost too exciting and cause that over-eagerness to take chances which is one of the surest ways of missing

them. Saturday's match was no exception to this rule. The Army backs bristled with International players; there were five of them, besides two among the forwards; but, despite a dry ball and dry ground, they made a good many mistakes and let slip a good many opportunities. However, they prevailed in the end, despite a most resolute defence by the Navy, and won in the end almost with comfort. Altogether, it was a fine, spirited game in the loveliest imaginable spring-like weather, with the King as a spectator.

IT is to be hoped that the criminal classes in large numbers read the speech of Mr. Rhodes, the general secretary of the British Association of Chemists, at the annual dinner of that body. If they did, they must have realised that crime is a risky business, and may, perhaps, think better of it. Mr. Rhodes' theme was the work of the analytical chemist in the detection of crime, particularly in regard to bloodstains and poisons. To-day the chemist can decide as to a stain, however old, the vital fact whether it is of human or animal blood. He has also made life very hard for the poisoners who use certain alkaloids which were once extremely difficult to trace, if they did not defy detection. Those who are fond of this rather gruesome subject, and so have read the trial of that really great poisoner, the late Dr. Palmer of Rugeley, will remember how little science could prove in those days as compared with what it can do now. The chemist can also, apparently, make himself very useful in certain cases of forgery by giving evidence in regard to the ink of ancient documents. If anybody is thinking of forging an original of Shakespeare, he had better be exceedingly careful.

EVERY few years or so science produces something new and interesting, and then it takes us another ten years to find out if the novelty has any practical economic application. The wonders of radium were of enormous scientific importance, but had no practical application except for medical purposes. Liquid air was found to have no practical application at all, but, indirectly, it gave us the thermos flask. The latest novelty is the Coolidge Tube, an American invention developed in the laboratories of the General Electric Company of America. It is the world's most powerful apparatus for bombarding atoms with electrons, and it has been producing extraordinary effects. Substances exposed to its rays change into other forms, gases may become solids or solids change into gas. In some cases unknown compounds have been formed. The latest sensational results have been obtained by a connected triple battery of these tubes using power at nine hundred thousand volts; but it is possible that the full resources of the apparatus will not be known until the power has been trebled and the electrons can be driven against their target at the speed of light. The new apparatus has already opened up a vast new field, which will have to be explored by the chemist as well as the physicist. It may yield something of benefit to humanity, or it may yield a new and incredibly powerful explosive. No one can say what will come from it, but it is one of the first practical steps towards using atomic forces in the service of man.

THAT Westminster Abbey should have lacked a sacristy all these years must have come as a surprise even to those who thought they knew the church well. The original monastic sacristy was, no doubt, among the buildings on the north side secularised at the Reformation. But though most people were in ignorance of this defect, it was not only well known, but, apparently, deeply felt, by the anonymous donor of the funds to build one; unless, as is perhaps more credible, the money was offered to the Dean by a lover of the Abbey to be spent as he saw fit. In any case, not only will the service of the Abbey be greatly convenienceed, but the public will gain a small museum and also, apparently, a most useful room where lectures can be given on the Abbey's possessions. On its appearance from outside in relation to the building as a whole it is, fortunately, unnecessary to pontificate, as a full-sized model is to be erected on the site, at which opponents may tilt. At present we can only say that the position seems well chosen, and that if Mr. Walter Tapper has been relatively as successful in its design as he was

in that of Quebec Chapel, no one will grudge the loss of grass that is involved, considering how badly a sacristy must be needed.

THE "wizard" Earl of Northumberland, books from whose library at Petworth are being sold next month at Sotheby's, was imprisoned for sixteen years in the Tower for alleged complicity in the Gunpowder Plot. In his cell he had a considerable library, and there he gathered about him mathematicians and alchemists, and, from the evidence of his books, pioneers of American colonisation. In this subject he was, probably, interested by his fellow-prisoner, Sir Walter Raleigh, as well as by his brother George, who wrote one of the manuscript accounts of Virginia which are to be sold. Another manuscript is the colonist William Strachey's *Historie of Travel into Virginia Britannia*, the only other copies of which are in the British Museum and the Bodleian. It is, no doubt, the most important document of American interest in private hands. Besides twenty-nine *Americana*, there are several MSS. on alchemy, the much treasured Petworth Book of Hours of the early fifteenth century, and a finely illuminated MS. of Lydgate's *Dreme of the Pilgrimage of the Soule*. The wizard earl's books come from the large upstairs room at Petworth, built by himself, and known as the old library. Its contents were known to few, and, consequently, the appearance of these unsuspected, and in some cases unique, documents in the sale room will create a remarkable excitement.

THE FAIRY LISTENS TO A FAIRY TALE.

Apple Tree End was a dear little house,
Full of most bothersome trifles,
Kind Colonel Rouse had a terrible grouse,
Kind Colonel Rouse of the Rifles.
His nice spindly wife led a sad shadowed life,
She shrugged, and she wondered, and fretted.
A maid to her mind she never could find.
Oh, how could she ever forget it?
But after the day had slow worn away
Came the stories they both loved queerly,
And the husband then read Hans Andersen,
They believed in fairies sincerely,
Sincerely!
And the fairies loved them back dearly.

At Apple Tree End (I thought this might be)
Now there has fallen a bomblette,
A Fay's come to say she'll work and she'll stay,
Knows how to toss up an omelette.
Bright stardust was there on her soft gold hair
And a diamond tag to her bootlace,
They had sent her down without her crown,
But they tucked her wand in her suitcase.
So after the day has fast flashed away,
She'll flit to the reading, all airy,
In the same wise book, the Colonel will look,
All sweet and spellbound, the Fairy,
The Fairy!
Will list to the tale of a Fairy.

MARJORY ROYCE.

A SUGGESTIVE memorandum dealing with certain relations of landowners to local authorities has been issued by the C.P.R.E., called "On the Reservation of Agricultural Land." There is a variety of ways by which land can be "sterilised" from the threat of building besides purchase by the National Trust. For example, ground can be scheduled as a "private open space" under a town-planning scheme, and the owner, while retaining full use, except the power to develop, escapes taxation on its potential building value. A constructive proposal is made in the memorandum on the possible co-operation of the owners of a tract of land, parts of which are reserved as open space under a town-planning scheme and other parts scheduled for development. Roughly, it is suggested that, by mutual arrangement, the owner of land deprived of building value should be compensated from the receipts of the land developed. The fact that open space in the vicinity is assured greatly enhances the value of the building land. Equable, however, as such a pooling of increment

would be, the acquisitiveness of human nature is such as to make it unlikely that A, assured of his land being developed, would compensate B—who is in the opposite predicament—very generously unless a pooling arrangement

was entered into before the district was zoned, and when all parties were in the dark. In that case the scheme would amount to changing a gambling chance into an assured average gain.

“THE MOST GLORIOUS STATE” UNKNOWN AFGHANISTAN

TO the older generation among those of us who stay at home the arrival of the Amir of Afghanistan and his Queen in this country brings back memories of the old “Russian Bogey” of Queen Victoria’s reign, and perhaps of Lord Roberts and the Afghan War. To the younger post-war generation it probably means little or nothing at all. Only those who have lived on the south of the mountain ranges, hid from the great North-west Frontier, realise what Afghanistan really means at a time when Russia is even more hostile and seeking every means at her command to undermine and destroy our Indian Empire. Except during actual warlike operations and punitive expeditions, Afghanistan remained throughout last century a complete *terra incognita*, and though in the years of Habibulla’s reign access to Afghanistan was easier than before, there can be few countries of the globe which are so little known to Europeans.

The country consists, as a glance at the map will show, of a vast mass of mountains and valleys running, roughly, from north-east to south-west and forming materially, as well as politically, a great buffer between Asiatic Russia and British India. Within its boundaries are found the most enormous extremes of climate and scenery. The Afghans pride themselves upon the health-giving climatic conditions of some parts of their country, but Europeans are hardly likely to find most parts of Afghanistan either salubrious or charming. The climate differs enormously within very short distances; indeed, the Emperor Baber said of Kabul that, within a day’s journey, he could find a place where snow never fell, and within two hour’s journey a place where the snow never melted. Such a range of climate is difficult to the European traveller, but still more trying is the change of temperature from day to night. For more than half the year the range from minimum to maximum temperature exceeds 30°. As for scenery, the south-west, bordering on Seistan and Baluchistan, is a bare rocky desert

swept by dust-storms and fiery winds. It is only in the mountainous valleys that surroundings can be found tolerable to the European. Kabul, with its great moated palace, has been often described. It has three months snow every year, during which the people hibernate like Eskimos. In the summer the heat of the sun is tempered by cool breezes from the Hindu Kush, and, as may be seen from the illustrations which accompany this article, the climatic conditions are tolerable and the green and well watered valleys near the capital are not displeasing to the eye.

As Englishmen, we meet the Afghans chiefly on the Frontier, where they seem to be more Pathans than anything else. The fact is that, from a racial point of view, Afghanistan is a mere geographical expression. It was once part of the Empire of Nadir Shah, and includes now, as it did when it was a part of Persia, a multitude of tribes and races. The reigning house belongs to the “Durani,” the name which their founder, Ahmed Shah, gave to them. Their culture is still Persian, though they belong to the Sunni and not the Shiah sect of Mohammedans. They are the aristocracy and the *intelligentsia* of Afghanistan. Persian is their vernacular, and in Persian they write their poems. The subject races are, for the most part, sunk in a sort of paganism which dimly reflects the principles of Ancient Greece, of Zoroastrianism and of Buddhism.

The Duranis hold, like some Scots, that they are the descendants of the lost tribes of Israel. The Amir Abdur Rahman held this theory with the firmest conviction. The Afghans, he told Lord Curzon, took their name from Afghana, who was commander-in-chief to King Solomon. Some were descended from him and others from Jeremiah, the son of Saul. Abdur Rahman’s son and successor, Habibulla, held the view that the Afghans were Jews who had been conquered by Babu-Nassar (*i.e.*, Nebuchadnezzar) and deported to Persia, whence they had migrated to Afghanistan and settled in the region



L. H. Spinks.

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KABUL: SHOWING, IN THE MIDDLE DISTANCE, THE ROYAL PALACE ENCLOSED BY A MOAT.



AN EVENING SCENE AT KABUL.

of the Suleiman Mountains. Advocates of the Lost Tribes theory pin their faith on the prevalence among the Afghans of Jewish "Christian names." Unfortunately, the argument is of little value, for these Biblical names are all in their Arabic forms and, obviously, post-Mohammedan in origin.

Like the Border Welsh, the Afghans are a nation of peasants and raiders. They are about half nomadic, and their settled population will undertake no occupation apart from tilling the soil and serving their King in the army. As for their character, the European must make large allowances before he can regard it even with moderate tolerance. However, this is not the occasion to discuss the national character of the Afghan. Like all of us, he has his failings and his drawbacks; like all of us, he has his compensating virtues.

Those who would understand the Afghan and his history might do worse than start by reading Lord Curzon's account of his dealings with the grandfather of the present Amir, the celebrated Abdur Rahman Khan. Abdur Rahman was a typical Afghan, and a great friend—up to a point—both of Lord Curzon and of this country. The story of his life, of his dealings with his own people and with ours throws a flood of light on the autocracy of Afghanistan.

"In this strange and almost incredible amalgam of the jester and the cynic, the statesman and the savage," wrote Lord Curzon, "I think that a passion for cruelty was one of his most inveterate instincts." Certainly his reign was a reign of terror, though it can never be denied that he laboured incessantly for the good of his country, and that it was due to the way in which he welded together the Afghan tribes that the milder and more enlightened Habibulla was enabled to introduce the civil, economic and military reforms that marked his reign.

The Amir Habibulla, King Amanulla's father, never visited these shores, though at the beginning of 1907 he paid a visit

to India, which gave him an opportunity of making the acquaintance of British officials and Anglo-Indian society, and exercised a most powerful influence upon his policy. From that time until the beginning of the Great War in 1914 the history of Afghanistan remained entirely peaceful, and was remarkable only for the gradual introduction of various civil and economic reforms. His predecessor, Abdur Rahman, also visited India and received, during Lord Elgin's Viceroyalty, a most pressing invitation to pay his respects to Queen Victoria in this country. It was during the time when he was deliberating over his reply to this invitation that Lord Curzon visited him at Kabul, and the account of his long discussions of the matter makes the most amusing reading. Abdur Rahman at length decided that he would accept the Queen's invitation, and handed to Lord Curzon a personal letter which was to be conveyed to Her Majesty; but on further consideration he came to the conclusion that if once he left Afghanistan his subjects might never allow him to return, and he finally (and no doubt wisely) decided to stay where he was.

He bore the greatest possible hostility to Lord Roberts, who, as Sir Frederick Roberts, had been despatched in 1879 to exact due recompense for the massacre of Sir Louis Cavagnari and his staff. This hostility was the basis of one of the most amusing conversations that took place between the Amir and Lord Curzon. It was repeated by Lord Curzon as follows:

AMIR: When I come to London I shall be received in Westminster Hall. The Queen will be seated on her throne at the end of the Hall, and the Royal Family will be around her; and on either side of the Hall will be placed the two *Mejlisses*—the House of Lords on the right and the House of Commons on the left. Is not that so?

CURZON: It is not our usual plan; but will Your Highness proceed?

AMIR: I shall enter the Hall and the Lords will rise



L. H. Spinks.

THE CAMELS' MEALTIME.

Copyright.

on the right, and the Commons will rise on the left to greet me, and I shall advance between them up the hall to the dais, where will be seated the Queen upon her throne. And she will rise and will say to me: "What has Your Majesty come from Kabul to say?" And how then shall I reply?

CURZON: I am sure I don't know.

AMIR: I shall reply: "I will say nothing," and the Queen will then ask me why I refuse to say anything; and I shall answer, "Send for Roberts. I decline to speak until Roberts comes." And they will send for Roberts and there will be a pause until Roberts comes; and when Roberts has come and is standing before the Queen and the two *Mejlisses*, then will I speak.

CURZON: And what will Your Highness say?

AMIR: I shall tell her how Roberts paid thousands of rupees to obtain false witness and slew thousands of my innocent people, and I shall ask that Roberts be punished; and when Roberts has been punished then will I speak.

As Lord Curzon somewhat sardonically remarked, the only person in England who failed to find the story amusing was Lord Roberts himself.

What is to be the future of the relations between this country and Afghanistan is a matter of great moment to our Indian Empire, and the present visit of Their Majesties to this country may do much to put those relations once more on a permanently friendly footing. Abdur Rahman was, as Lord Curzon has told us, in spite of his uncertain temper and insolent language, a consistent friend of the British Alliance. As an independent sovereign he was compelled, for the sake of appearances with his own people, to exhibit "a truculence that was often offensive and at times insupportable." But at a crisis it was to British advice and British arms that he invariably turned. The Amir Habibulla, without the necessity for offensive and insupportable truculence, showed himself a true friend both of this country and his own.

To-day there looms behind the mountains of Afghanistan—as there did thirty and forty years ago—the spectre of a hostile Russia. When, in 1919, the Amir Habibulla was murdered in his tent and King Amanulla was proclaimed in his stead, the new Amir proclaimed Afghanistan's complete external independence of Great Britain and despatched a mission to Moscow to institute relations with the newly formed Soviet Government. This step was followed by the proclamation of a holy war, and hostilities on the North-west Frontier lasted for some months. Fortunately, the peace negotiations which followed laid the foundations of a better understanding, which can only be strengthened by the present visit of the Amir and his Queen to England. R. L. J.



IN THE COUNTRY NEAR KABUL.



A CROWD OF KABULI AFGHANS.



L. H. Spinks.

A PLEASANT REACH OF THE KABUL RIVER.

Copyright.

PURPLE AND GOLD



STREAKS OF COLOUR IN THE GRASS.

IT was no mere momentary impulse that inspired a visit to the gardens at Kew and Hampton Court the other day. Memories of crocus time at Warley Place whispered that it was already time to be up and doing to catch these glorious sweeps of blossom at their best. So, with hope high in my heart, and mind attuned with the atmosphere of spring, I set off; and I was not disappointed. The wide and spacious lawns were a blaze of purple and gold, like some scene from the high Alps in early April. That strange burst of glorious spring sunshine at the end of February had done its work well and left streaks of colour in the grass to mark its passage. A carpet of crocuses is one of the dearest gifts of spring. It is the first sign of the awakening earth and the unfolding of bud and leaf in hedge-row and woodland, and how gladly our pulses respond to the call. It is a gift to be accepted in the spirit in which it is given, like many other floral offerings from Spring's bounteous basket. Spring has an unfortunate and persistent trick of snatching away her gifts before they are half enjoyed—at least, so it would seem to many of us. They are ephemeral,



"AND AT THEIR FEET THE CROCUS BREAK LIKE FIRE."

like chimeras in the world of plants, here to-day and gone to-morrow. With every year that passes it becomes more and more certain that, almost before Spring is here she will be gone. Time gallops fast, but at no season more quickly than the present, when the first early crocus pushes its nose through the covering of brown earth, and the naked shoots of the almonds and cherries unfurl their treasures more precious than gold. You must hurry to catch that fleeting smile if you wish to partake of the feast of floral joys. It will not wait while you linger to take your fill from each of its fast-departing beauties. It rushes onwards from the first snowdrops—now, alas! gone and forgotten—to the crocuses in their hey-day, and thence to the daffodils, tulips and hyacinths till summer is beckoning and thoughts turn to the rich tones and mellowness of autumn, with the lurking shadows beyond of shortening days and a dreary winter. We cannot stay the passing seasons, but we can at least snatch a little as they hurry on and enjoy what is set before us. The coming of the crocus marks a milestone in the passage of the months. It synchronises with the arrival of spring and the passing of

winter. It is a definite break with the past and a stepping-off point for the future, and, strangely enough, it seems to appear with almost exemplary exactitude every year, no matter though it suffers from the vicissitudes of our most trying winter. It is evident that this definite periodicity in flowering has been noted by even the most casual observers sufficiently to evoke wonder. White, in his *Seasons of Flowering Among Plants*, writes:

Say, what impels, amid surrounding snow

Congeaed, the crocus' flaming bud to glow?

Unfortunately, I cannot find an answer, but surely the time of flowering is a natural instinct. The crocus in its native hills always follows hard on the heels of the retreating snow, and as that disappears at definite and fixed periods, so has the crocus acquired the habit of flowering immediately afterwards. The suggestion may not be scientifically accurate, but it is at least an interesting hypothesis. It is certain, however, that with the first fitful burst of spring sun they stir themselves from their winter's sleep and raise their chalices to revel in the sunshine and warmth.

But their presence does more than raise these purely mundane questions so bound up with botanical and horticultural science. Their appearance stirs our imagination and conjures up pictures of what the future has in store. How well their graceful little blossoms swinging to a ground breeze express the joys of anticipation and promise. How daring they are to unfurl such beauty for our pleasure so early in the year, and to help us on our road. In return, we cannot pay them a better tribute than that expressed by Wordsworth in:

Would that the little flowers were born to live

Conscious of half the pleasure that they give.

Their beauty is of a kind that catches and takes hold of one. The broad swathes in the grassy stretches, with their colour schemes of purple, white and gold, are deeply impressive. How charming they look in their groups and clumps, with bold masses here and there trickling off into little by-ways, eventually to be lost to view under the sweeping branches of some stately sentinel in the grounds. How they cluster attractively around the base of some hoary-headed oak or beech, either by accident or by design. In such naturalised plantings they breathe the very spirit of quiet contemplative beauty, which has that queer psychic power of penetrating one's innermost thoughts.

Keen gardeners should not miss the crocus overture to spring's pageant. Take heed when the sheets of blossom are at their best, and let your own garden reflect this glory next year. Let the banks with their swelling shoulders glow with a blaze of purple and gold, and the base of the trees break to fire.

G. C. TAYLOR.



LET THE BANKS WITH THEIR SWELLING SHOULDERS GLOW WITH COLOUR AND BLOSSOM.

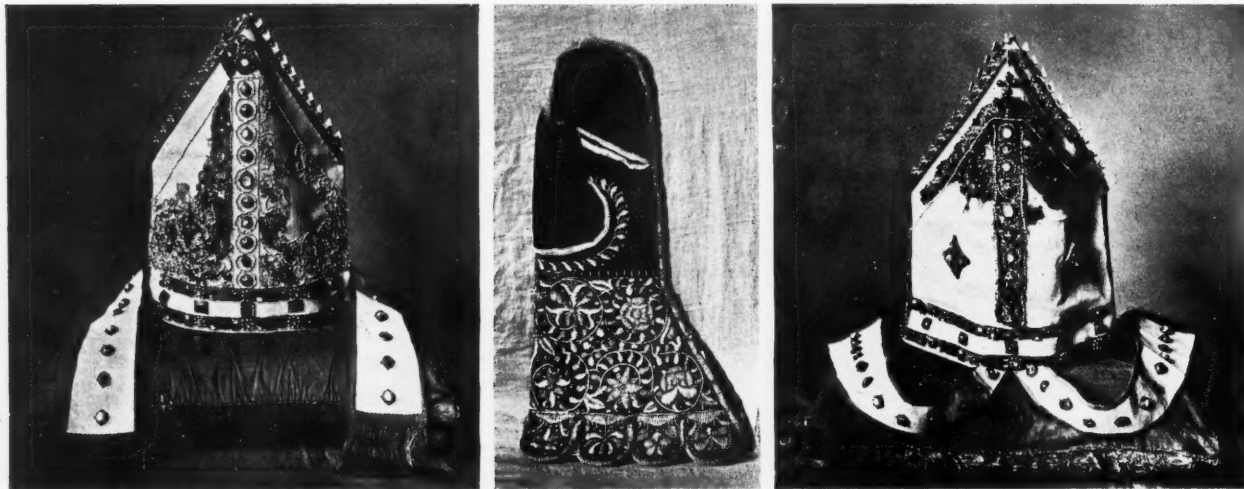


THE GLORY OF THE SNOW IN A NATURAL SETTING



BROAD SWATHES OF PURPLE AND GOLD.

AN EXHIBITION OF NEEDLEWORK AT 25, PARK LANE



MITRE OF WILLIAM OF WYKEHAM. CORONATION GLOVE OF EDWARD VI. THE BACK OF THE MITRE.

FROM the pageant of English secular needlework, which is staged this week at Sir Philip Sassoon's house in Park Lane, the wealth and range of the craft in England can be fully realised. England, it has been said, in the Middle Ages was a garden of delights; and "there, where many things abound, much may be extracted." For this week the best has been extracted and displayed from great houses and great collections, from Hardwick Hall and Knole. It is an opportunity not to be missed. Here the age of Elizabeth and James lives again in the rich and crowded pictorial pieces, in which all the personages, whether Solomon or classic-romantic figures, wear the same dress—slashed, puffed, banded and "pinched," and stiff with braid and embroidery, and mounted with jewels. "We wear the most fantastical fashions that any nation under the sun doth," Coryat wrote early in the reign of James I.

Of mediæval English needlework, the far-famed *opus anglicanum*, the outstanding example is the traditional mitre of William of Wykeham from New College. The gilt metal cresting, the encrustation of seed pearls and the numerous other gems and enamels have been re-applied to a modern canvas body. Though the crimson knitted gloves from the same college are reputed to be the founder's, they may, possibly, have belonged to Archbishop William Wareham. The case for the fourteenth century origin of the mitre is better established. Two small panels, worked on a ground of crimson velvet, with the Annunciation, St. Margaret and St. Catherine of Alexandria,

together with fragments from the Lilleshall copes, provide a significant testimony to the beauty of the *opus anglicanum*. From Hardwick comes some of the needlework of Elizabeth, Countess of Shrewsbury, which she bequeathed "to be, remayne

and contynewe there," and which is an outward expression of her industry and magnificence. This needlework varies in quality from cushion-covers of naïve Elizabethan crudity, such as the Fall of Phaethon, Actæon and Europa, which bear her initials "E. S.," to the fine pictorial panels of the Judgment of Solomon (illustrated in COUNTRY LIFE last week) and the Sacrifice of Isaac. In her manuscript inventory are mentioned: "a long quition of needlework, the Storie of Phaeton, the Storie of Acteon and Diana." In the two panels from Biblical story, the Sacrifice of Isaac and the Judgment of Solomon, there is none of the odd distortions of the classic group, and the figures are skilfully drawn; and the accessories of costume, the slashed and embroidered dress and ruffs edged with geometric lace, are brilliantly rendered, "the whole drama set in a background in which every curiosity of nature and art is employed to enrich the effect of the whole."



TWO SAINTS, ENGLISH. Circa 1300.

The exhibition is especially rich in such pictorial needlework, worked in *petit-point* with Biblical and romantic tales, both single episodes for cushion covers, and consecutive scenes worked on horizontal strips of canvas. They may have been hung on the wall, above the wainscot, or in some cases served as bed valances. Three strips lent by Mrs. Gubbay (illustrated last week) show the



ARMORIAL CARPET IN FINE PETIT-POINT. Circa 1550. LENT BY LORD ST. JOHN OF BLETSO.



NEEDLEWORK PICTURE OF CHATSWORTH, LATE XVI CENTURY, LENT BY THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE.

visit of the Queen of Sheba to Solomon. On the uppermost strip the queen is mounted on a camel; on the midmost, she makes obeisance to the king, who is seated under a canopy, while behind her are ranged her ladies, also wearing large ruffs and courtly dress, and her slender and richly dressed attendants carrying coffers and offerings. The setting is carefully drawn from the Biblical story, where we read that the queen came "with a very great train, and camels that bare sweet odours, and gold exceeding much"; and also that she "gave the king six score talents of golde, and of sweete odours exceeding much."

In Mr. Albu's fine screen there is a mannered elegance in the personages and costume, a freedom of gesture that suggests the French artist. The art of these decorative panels in *petit-point* was derived from France, and a French influence is apparent in certain examples.

A hanging worked in *petit-point*, lent by Mrs. Gubbay, is an example of the taste for emblems and allegories which characterised the late years of the sixteenth century and early seventeenth century, when the ceilings of Boston House, the hall screen of Burton Agnes, the drawing-room of Bolsover



ELIZABETHAN PETIT-POINT PANELS, LENT BY MR. ALBU.



ITALIAN DRESSED FIGURE, LATE, XVII CENTURY.



A MINIATURE BED, LATE XVII CENTURY.

were galleries of visible symbolism. The hanging is divided by tree-trunks wreathed with twining flower-stems into six panels, in which the Six Cardinal Virtues are presented in Elizabethan dress. The unusual border consists of winged female monsters divided by a vase of flowers.

Besides these pictures in needlework—tapestries in little—there are assembled a great number of chair-coverings and cushions, and carpets—the latter for the table or the wall, rather than for the floor. Among the cushion-covers from Hardwick is a *petit-point* panel representing old Chatsworth House.

In a table carpet from Lord St. John of Bletso, which dates from the middle years of the sixteenth century and is closely worked in *petit-point* in silk threads on a linen ground, the design of the field is a lozenge diaper, uninterrupted save for three roundels. The centre bears an armorial achievement within a wreath, while in the two lateral roundels a stag is represented under an oak tree. The general colour of the field is a buff yellow; and the very fine technique and texture, as well as its size, render it notable. Later in date is the fine carpet from Knole, commemorating the marriage of the fourth Earl of Dorset in 1612 to Mary, daughter and heiress of Sir George Curzon of Croxall. A second armorial carpet from the St. John family also dates from the early seventeenth century.

The line of chairs covered with embroidery, some of which will be illustrated in a subsequent article, extends onwards from Knole, a house from which a history of English furniture

of the seventeenth century could be fully illustrated. From its spangled bedroom comes an X-framed armchair, with the framework over-laid with bold applied work on a ground of red satin, bordered with a silver edging and retaining some of the spangles. A chair and X-framed stool from the Brown gallery also show foreign influence in their formal floral design of fine silver thread.

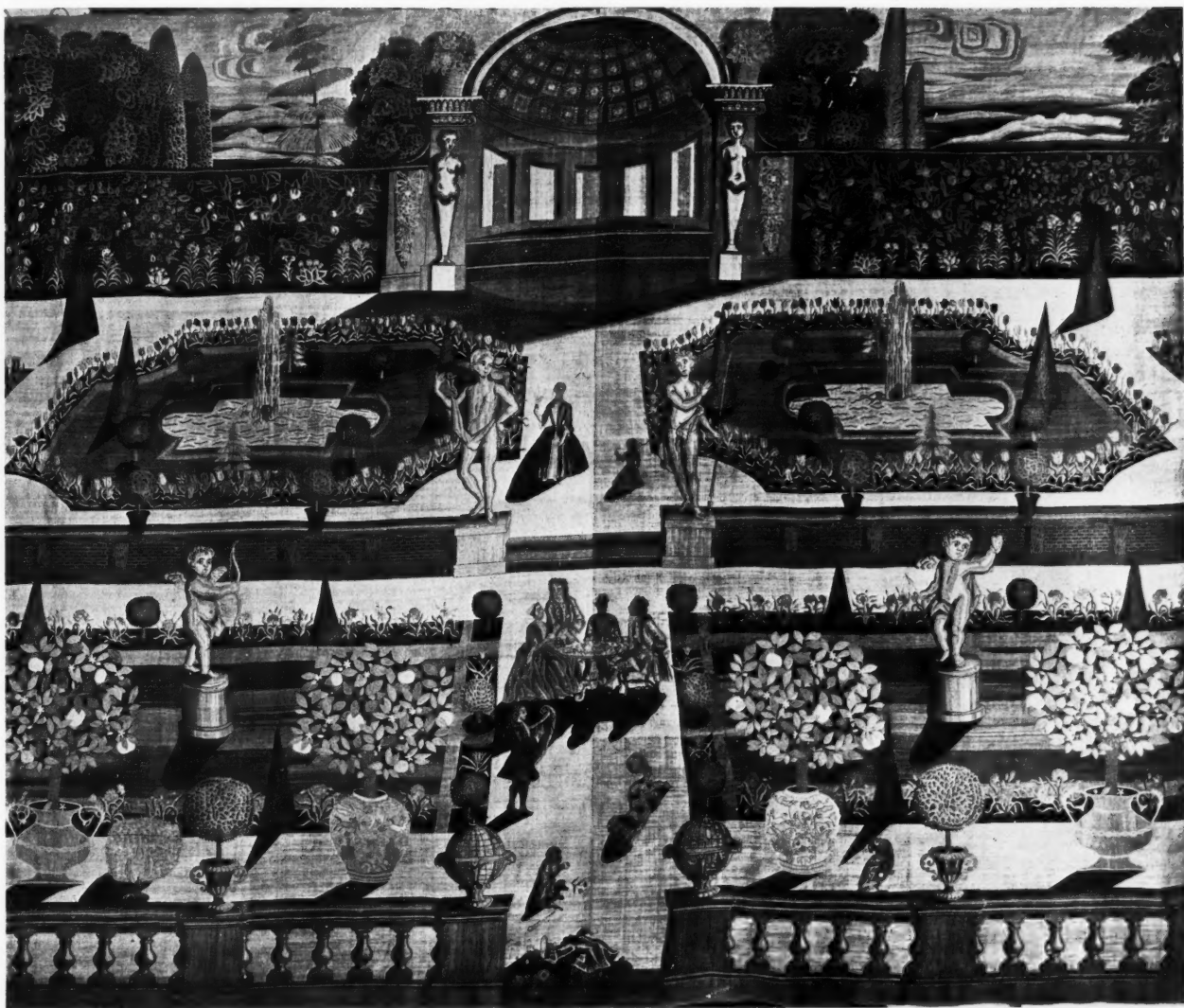
Wall hangings of needlework are of the greatest rarity. Here are some Ionic pilasters of velvet, banded with needlework, formerly at Wrest Park in Bedfordshire, a relic of an imposing scheme of decoration before 1612, the year in which

King James set out on a progress to many country houses. These pilasters are described by Nichols as "finished with stripes of velvet, and worked with silk festoons between each." One large panel from the set in the Green Velvet Bedroom at Stoke Edith—worked, it is said, by the five successive wives of Thomas Foley, who succeeded to the estate in 1737—represents a formal parterre in springtime. The worker who carried out this design upon fine brown linen threw the scene back by a balustrade, and gave vigour and accent to the vases, garden figures and the company on the parterre by providing them with marked shadows.

Besides pieces notable for their beauty or curiosity, there are others among the assemblage of historical interest, such as the crimson velvet coronation gloves of Edward VI; a veil worn by Mary, Queen of Scots, lent by Lady Horner. It has been suggested that the oblong



PART OF AN ELIZABETHAN HANGING REPRESENTING THE VIRTUES, LENT BY MRS. GUBBAY.



PETIT-POINT HANGING. Circa 1740. FROM STOKE EDITH.

linen case with remains of ribbon ties, which bears the Royal arms of England before the union with the crown of Scotland, worked in minute *petit-point*, is from Elizabeth's hand, but for this there is no evidence, and the initials "E. R.," "S. B." and "M. B." suggest that it was worked by three persons.

From the long captivity of Mary few relics have survived. From Hardwick, however, comes one of the pieces of needlework that can be safely attributed to her, a panel which bears the name "Maria" ensigned with a crown, worked into the design on the oval in the centre.

INCHES AND ELLS

BY BERNARD DARWIN.

I HAVE just been out exulting in the spring which gives us fine, sunshiny days on which to practise, and feel moved on my return to preach a sermon. My theme shall be the importance of the golfing inch. In case that appears a somewhat cryptic utterance, what I mean is this: that a very little difference, just the difference of an inch or so, can make all the difference in the world.

Take, for example, the question of standing too near to the ball or too far from it. Heaven forbid that I should lay down what is the right distance to stand from the ball; but nobody can deny that there is, for each one of us, a right distance and a wrong, and, judging by results, we usually select the wrong one. It is an old and, as I think, on the whole a wise saw which tells us when we are off our driving to make sure that we have not unknowingly been creeping in nearer to the ball. It is entitled to respect, if only because it is the chief article of Mr. Laidlay's creed. If we have so crept in, just a little wriggling of the feet backwards produces a new and delightful sensation of restored power. On the other hand, it is possible, though rarer, to get too far away. Then, if we move in a little, how pleasant is the feeling of comfort and relaxation and absence of strain that ensues. Of course, in either of these cases we all too soon become self-conscious or exaggerate the cure. In the one case, we begin to feel like Major Hezlet (who stands farther from the ball than anyone of my acquaintance), but without his admirable results; in the other, we feel like the very mildest of lady beginners. And yet the difference between

these two stances which produce such extraordinarily different sensations is really tiny. As far as I could see, in my own case it was no more than the length of my club face, and my wooden clubs are old-fashioned, pug-nosed little fellows (I think them beautiful) with very short faces.

There was another cure that I was trying on this solitary, sunshiny afternoon, so enjoyable in itself and probably so fatal to what I am pleased to call my game. I was trying to stand just a little less "open" and more "square." I moved my left foot one inch forward and my right foot an inch back, and behold, I was a creature transfigured. I do not mean that I felt certain of hitting the ball—far from it; but I did feel, like Bottom, "translated." I could hardly believe that the person standing in this strange new attitude was really me. Yet, on my honour, it was only a matter of two inches all told.

It would be easy to multiply instances. Suppose that we are told by a kind friend—and it is sometimes very good advice—to get our hands a little higher at the top of the swing, we feel that we are lifting them almost over the top of our head, and yet the friend, who is looking on, stolidly insists that he can hardly see any change. Or again, if we have fallen into a habit of getting our weight back too much on to our heels or too much forward on to our toes, the absolute minimum of reform makes us think that we shall certainly fall either on to our noses or the backs of our heads. As for shortening our swing—in any case a perilous enterprise—that contains more

elements of fury and consternation than any other such experiment. It is so clear to us that we are taking the club back no farther than we should for a short mashie shot; it is so clear to the spectators—or so they declare—that our club is still reaching at least a horizontal position behind our necks. Moreover, a shadow can be fully as offensive and mendacious as any spectator. The way in which my shadow has told me that my right elbow is leaping into the air when I *know* that it is glued to my side—but there, that is too painful a subject, and, besides, I am wandering a little from my point.

Having given my illustrations, I proceed to my moral. It is, as far as I can make it out, that we should try to reform by infinitesimally small degrees, and that we should do so not with a measuring tape but by means of a mental picture. If we can get into our minds a picture of ourselves standing well away from the ball, all may be well, and we may feel free and comfortable. Suppose, on the other hand, that we say, "Now, let me see. Braid says we are to stand so that, when the face of the club is laid against the ball, the end of the shaft should just reach the left knee when the knee has got a suspicion of a bend in it." Suppose, further, that we put the ball here and the club face there and conscientiously bend that knee. Why, then, it is probable that, though Braid will remain one of

the wisest men in the world, we shall look and feel like stuck pigs.

There is one thing about golf that always strikes me as particularly contrary and paradoxical. In one sense we cannot change our styles any more than the leopard can his spots. That is to say, we cannot change its broad general outline which is familiar to other people. I only know one golfer among my friends who has done that, and even so his right elbow, with which I have a fellow feeling, will fly out now and again. In another sense, however, we underrate our power of changing small things, matters of inches. Our body responds to our wishes more quickly than we suppose, and has often learnt its new trick while we are still trying to drill it into learning. The result is that the body, its good intentions not having been properly appreciated, turns sulky and rebellious. It says to us, in effect, "I'm not a fool. I understand perfectly well about your miserable little inch and was doing exactly what you told me. Now you can have an ell instead and see how you like that." This very afternoon, after desperate struggles, I had really persuaded my body into behaving quite nicely. If I do not think about it any more it may still behave nicely on the morrow, but it is so hard sometimes not to think, and if I do, I know it will have its revenge on me. The inch will become an ell, and I shall have to begin all over again on the next fine day.

THE HUNTER AND PONY SHOWS

IT is generally agreed that this year's Show of the Hunters' Improvement and National Light Horse Breeding Society—to give that Society its proper name—was far the best that has been held since the war. Strong

classes were to be found in every section, and the level quality of the exhibits was very marked. The amount of sorting over which was necessary is clear proof that this country has now established a type which it is our duty to maintain. The policy of the War Office in connection with the King's Premiums has been very successful, and changing the home of the stallions every three years has had the effect of interchanging good blood all over the country, and has proved an invaluable aid in improving the breed of light horses.

From a social point of view the event was a great success. Their Majesties the King and Queen were present on the Wednesday and saw the parade of details of Royal Artillery and Cavalry which is one of the most important events in the show.

The only question about the Pony Show was whether

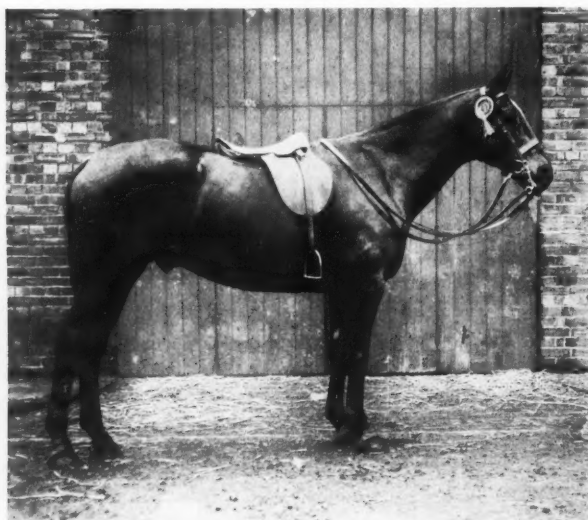
the programme was not too heavy for the two days at the disposal of the executive. It is a question which yearly becomes more grave as the number of pony entries increases. This year the breeding stock in the polo and riding

pony classes was of exceptionally good character, and altogether the Show was a great success. It is certainly unique among shows, for it comprises specimens of all the national or indigenous breeds of ponies in the United Kingdom, with the added attraction of the typical polo pony, now known as the "polo bred," a beautiful class of animal which has been evolved by the enterprise and skill of members of the National Pony Society within the last thirty years. There was an excellent entry this year for all classes, covering polo-breeds, New Forest, Dartmoor, Exmoor, Welsh, Highland, Shetland, Dale and Fell ponies—a varied collection of breeds which cannot be seen in one ring on any other occasion. The afternoon of each day of the Show was devoted, as usual, to sporting competitions, such as jumping, musical chairs, and children's riding classes.



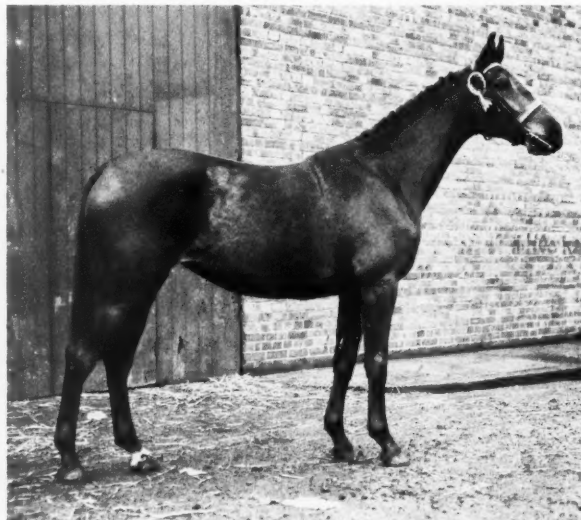
BRIGAND.

Winner of the King's Champion Ch. Cup for thoroughbreds.



W. A. Rouch.

THE GENERAL.
Champion hunter.



SNAIL III.

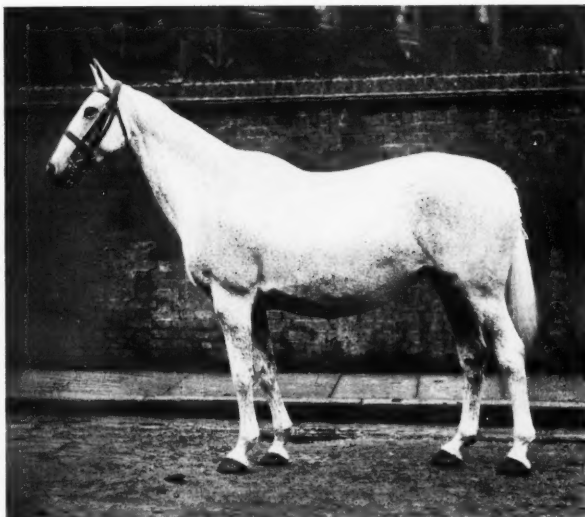
Winner of the Prince of Wales's Cup for young hunters. Copyright.



SAINFOIN.
Champion Arab stallion.



SILVERDALE LOYALTY.
Champion polo pony stallion. Winner of COUNTRY LIFE
Challenge Cup.



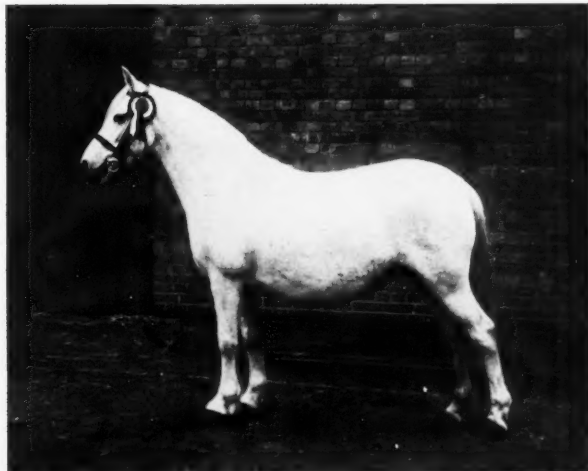
TITANIA II.
Champion polo pony brood mare.



GAIETY.
Champion polo pony.



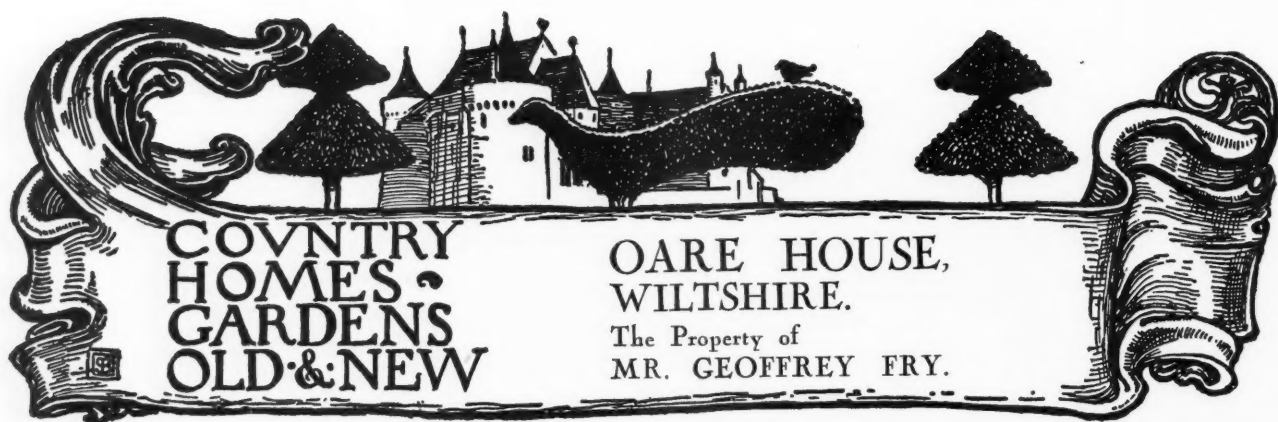
W. A. Rouch. MOOR BRADLEY.
Winner of the Linnel Challenge Cup for the best mountain and
moorland pony.



CASTLEMAI KITTIWAKE.
Champion Welsh pony mare.

Copyright.

SOME WINNERS AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.



Central block built for Henry Deacon in 1740. Between 1921 and 1926 additions were made from designs by Mr. Clough Williams-Ellis.

AN avenue of tall limes leads straight from the road to the east front (Fig. 3) of this compact Georgian dwelling. From the terrace before its western front (Fig. 2) you look over a gently sloping lawn (Fig. 7) and away down the Vale of Pewsey. The house lies sheltered from the north by the downs, through which the road from Marlborough has come southwards. To the north-east rises the sharp ridge of Martinsell, seen from Oare endwise, so that it looks like a sugar-loaf, its point circled with earthworks of the Celts. Though the sweet air and swellings of

the chalk are within a few minutes' walk, Oare itself and its rectangular enclosures are on the greensand of the valley floor. One of the origins of downland's beauty is this geological arrangement of soils, whereby two wholly different kinds of country are laid side by side. The open velvet curves, always rising out of soft woodland and enclosed arable country, invite to freedom, which, when it has been enjoyed, is not unwillingly abandoned for the comforts of the clay. This union of the solemn with the homely in the scenery of such a district as North Wiltshire is reflected in the regional architecture. In

the west of the county a fine stone was available from the quarries around Chippenham. Much of the excellent eighteenth century architecture of Devizes is of stone. But, farther east, stone was more difficult to come by, and the presence of brick earth in the greensand produced a local brick architecture of which the inviting simplicity, by chance or by design, consorts as well with the downs as with the broad valleys. The bricklayers of Marlborough and Devizes during the eighteenth century attained a high level of craftsmanship, of which this house at Oare is one of the best examples.

Eighteenth-century brickwork, though sound, is not, for the most part, very distinguished. Brought to a high refinement by Wren's craftsmen and their provincial contemporaries, it was supplanted by stone in the favour of Palladian architects. It is rare to find a gentleman's seat built of brick after 1720. In this district, however, it flourished. The great inn at Marlborough, now the nucleus of Marlborough College, is of brick. So was the building at Savernake which Thomas Cundy's stone Palladian mansion replaced in the early nineteenth century. For various reasons, moreover—of which the failure of the eighteenth-century eye to view downs with relish was one—there are few large "seats" in this region, and, possibly as a consequence, the local masons did not learn to despise brickwork. At Devizes they worked equally well in stone or brick.

At Oare the nameless mason, though he worked within strait limits of design,



Copyright. 1.—OVER THE FORECOURT AND DOWN THE AVENUE. "COUNTRY LIFE." From an upper window of the house.



Copyright.

2.—MODERN WINGS FLANKING THE WEST FRONT.
Flemish bond with blue black headers.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright.

3.—THE EAST FRONT AND FORECOURT, LOOKING UP THE LIME AVENUE.

"COUNTRY LIFE."



4.—FROM DRAWING-ROOM TO LOGGIA IN THE SOUTH WALLED GARDEN.



5.—THE PROJECTING LIBRARY WING, FROM THE LOGGIA.



6.—THE TERRACE, LOOKING NORTH TOWARDS THE DOWNS.

contrived to put a deal of quiet craft into his bricklaying. The house was to be an oblong cube resting on a basement, with a slightly projecting pedimented centre and a pair of single storey projecting wings on the main front (Fig. 3), capped by a cupola and defined by a pair of chimneys. The first floor level was allowed a string-course, and its three central windows he considered should be stressed, so he gave them eyebrows. Enrichment was restricted to the cornice. For the rest, there was a porch of carpenter's work, a forecourt with wrought-iron railings and a gate of graceful design (Fig. 1), the paving beneath which consists of small blocks of Sarsen stone. Into this austere outline he worked a great deal of colour. Loosely, one would say the house is built of red brick. Actually, this front is a greyish mauve, with vermilion facings. The coigns, window-surrounds, string-course and cornice are of fine red brick rubbed into clean mouldings on the two latter features. But the wall surface is entirely composed of flared headers in the bond that Batty Langley at the time considered the "most beautiful." It is not uncommon to find walls built between 1710 and 1750 flecked or even diapered with dark headers. Finch-cocks, Kent, is one of the best examples of such chequerwork. But so thorough a use of the practice as this was almost confined to the decade 1730-40. Chequering with black headers makes its natural appearance on the west front (Fig. 2), where it is produced by the ordinary Flemish bond. The colour-scheme of the entrance front in effect predominates over the linear design. Thus the architraves of the first floor windows, which look unduly prominent in Fig. 3, and insufficiently related to their plane, intensify the colour-scheme rather than the linear pattern, and are, consequently, judged for their colour value, not for their relation to the linear design.

In its original condition Oare must have represented unmistakably the concept "house." It was the kind of house that we instinctively draw when our first box of chalks is given to us. This simplicity, this dignified housiness extending in a series of square walled enclosures round about, still relate Oare intimately to its scenery. It has the clean surfaces of the downs and the essential domesticity of the greensand.

Some such qualities seem to have distinguished Mr. Deacon, the builder—H. D., a rain-water head calls him, adding the date 1740. According to his tablet in Pewsey Church, he was a wine merchant of London, who took a poor boy named John Hiller into his employ. Hiller certainly married his widow and so became possessed of Oare. Notes relating to the family history in the possession of Mr. Maurice Goodman of Budleigh Salterton, and formerly of Oare, refer to John and Alice Hiller as a brother and sister who came from Ireland. Deacon would seem to have been born in the neighbourhood, for there is the story that, when twitted by one of his nobler neighbours at Oare about his humble origin, he replied "Ay, and if thee'd ha' been a ploughboy, thee'd ha' been a carter now." His crest, a horse's head, which is worked into the



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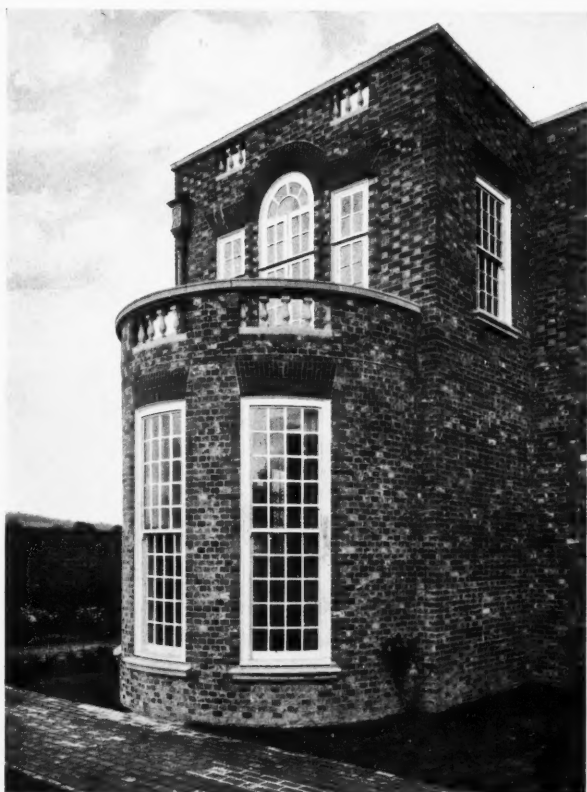
7.—THE LAWN AND THE VALE OF PEWSEY.
From the terrace before the west front.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

overthrow of the gate, combined with the anecdote, give us a pleasant if shadowy picture of the builder of Oare. Neither Aubrey, Colt Hoare nor any other historian of the district refers to Oare, and Mr. Goodman's notes only go on to tell us that in 1799 John Hiller devised Oare to his sister's son, John Goodman, who was succeeded by his son, the Rev. Maurice Hiller Goodman, rector of Wilcot-cum-Oare, who died in 1856. Edward Goodman, a nephew, then succeeded, and owned the property till it was split up and sold in 1887 or 1888. These notes are derived from his son.

The Rev. M. H. Goodman added a drawing-room to the north end of the house, which has since been incorporated

in Mr. Geoffrey Fry's additions. The first of these to be undertaken, in 1921, consisted in two wings of three bays, as seen from the west (Fig. 2). In 1925 a library wing was added at the south-east angle (Fig. 5) adjoining the walled garden laid out in 1921. Mr. Williams-Ellis was the architect of both the additions. The object of them was to provide a large drawing-room suitable for dancing (Fig. 11), with good bedrooms above it at the south end, and to accommodate a kitchen at the north end in the Victorian drawing-room to replace the original kitchen in the basement. Modern requirements necessitated an increase in scale in the new blocks by eliminating the basement on which the original house stands.



Copyright.

8.—THE LIBRARY BOW.



9.—FROM LOGGIA TO DRAWING-ROOM. "C.L."



Copyright. 10.—THE HALL, OCCUPYING THE LENGTH OF THE ORIGINAL EAST FRONT. "COUNTRY LIFE."



Copyright. 11.—THE MODERN DRAWING-ROOM. "COUNTRY LIFE."

On the east side this change of scale did not arise, since the small original wings there adequately masked the additions. The single-storey south-east wing was fitted up as a small library opening out of the drawing-room. It has now become an anteroom to the 1925 library, its south wall having been removed and replaced by a pair of Ionic columns (Fig. 12). To get these columns of the same height as those at the farther end it will be seen that, by an ingenious device, they were given no real capitals, the silhouettes of capitals being applied to the face of the lintel. The fireplace of this new library is set in a deep bay in its eastern side.

All the additions to the south end of the house are seen in Fig. 5, and a very pleasant group they form. Flemish bond

end of a walk opposite the entrance to the drawing-room. As it nears the loggia this walk is bordered by limes. When these are pleached they will act as wings to the loggia, the effectiveness of which will be enhanced by their formal greenery.

Passing through the wooden gate seen on the left of Fig. 5, we come on to the terrace. The sloping banks are original, but the paving and urns are innovations. From it we see the well known kneeling blackamoor that Van Nost cast in considerable numbers between 1700 and 1740. Beyond is a *clairvoyée* to admit the prospect to one on the lawn. A rectangular swimming pool with a herbaceous border on its farther edge has been constructed outside the old enclosure. At the north end of the terrace is one of the garden seats that Mr. Williams-Ellis



Copyright.

12.—THE LIBRARY.

"COUNTRY LIFE."

has been used, as on the west front, with blue headers. Considerable difficulty was experienced in finding suitable bricks. The original brickfield had ceased to operate, and the problem was at length solved by using up the material of an old house of the same period which was being demolished in the neighbourhood. The treatment of the south end of the library (Fig. 8) is particularly satisfactory. A semicircular bay is applied boldly to a plain rectangular cube without any trimmings to smudge this harmony of simple forms. The space lying before this south front has been enclosed by walls and hedges, and a loggia, of the same fastidiousness as the house, set at the

has designed (Fig. 6). Others (shown in Figs. 16 and 17) are in the loggia. They are very decorative and characteristic of their designer, but none the less practical. At the south end of the terrace is a gate of good decorative ironwork wrought by Mr. Williams, blacksmith at the neighbouring village of Wilcot, from designs by Mr. Williams-Ellis. It is most desirable, from every point of view, that architects should, wherever possible, employ local smiths for their ironwork. The cost is generally far below that charged by London firms, the work excellent, and a hard-pressed craft is thereby encouraged and assisted.



Copyright.

13.—A BEDROOM ABOVE THE LIBRARY.

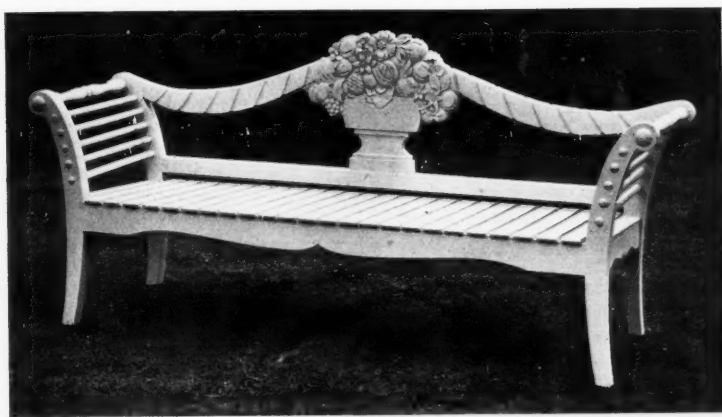
"COUNTRY LIFE."

The north addition (on the left of Fig. 2) incorporated the Victorian drawing-room, which was converted into the kitchen, over which was accommodated a new bed and dressing room. The height of the former drawing-room ceiling, however, made the floor of these upper rooms come level with the sills of their windows, as dictated by those of the south wing. It is a pity that the levels could not have been better adjusted.

The ground floor of the central block contained, originally, four rooms, now reduced to three by throwing the two eastern rooms into a single hall (Fig. 10). The wainscot is painted a broken white with faint lavender mouldings, both of which tints have faded into a white that the slight variation of colouring makes alive. At one end rises the oak staircase and at the other we descend three steps to the new drawing-room, the main feature of which is the Venetian window-door in the south wall.



Copyright. 14 AND 15.—ARMCHAIR AND SINGLE CHAIR OF MAHOGANY. "EGYPTIAN" TASTE, c. 1805. "C.L."

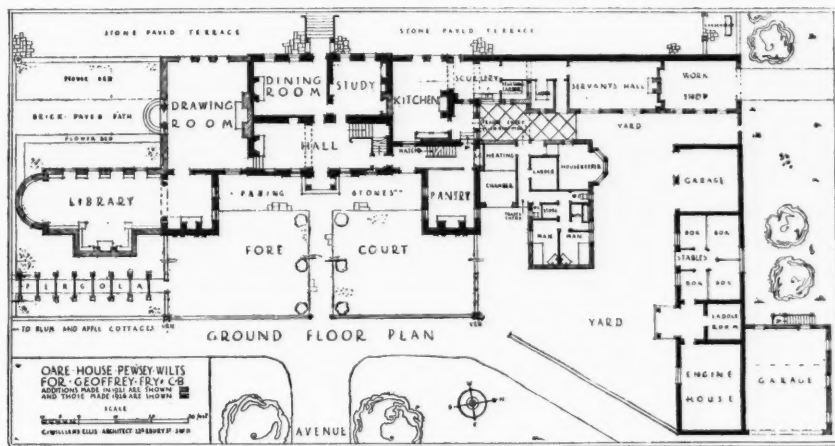


16 AND 17.—GARDEN SEATS DESIGNED BY MR. CLOUGH WILLIAMS-ELLIS.

Hence we go by the anteroom already alluded to into the library (Fig. 12). Its structural peculiarities have been referred to above. The walls and ceiling are a glossy stippled buff, and the curtains of dark rose and wine colour. A pleasant modern toile de Jouy covers the armchairs. The bookcases are refreshingly modern in design and are made of Indian laurel wood, a very hard wormproof timber that is inexpensive and has a fine dark figure. The hanging lights are of yellow silk with glass pendants and rose cords. A handsome set of Empire chairs, covered in the same rose and wine coloured velvet, furnishes the room (Figs. 14 and 15). Of mahogany with black stained channelling, they will date from the Egyptian phase of taste (*circa* 1805). There is, perhaps, too obvious a disparity between the fore and hind legs for the design to be wholly satisfying. Above the

library is Mrs. Fry's bedroom (Fig. 13), containing an amusing bed of her own designing. The walls and ceiling of the room are "sunlight" painted. The cornice is of an effective modern pattern consisting of horizontal flutings. The apertures have reeded pilasters, and doors and lintels of clean design painted a pearly grey. The bed is hung with Shantung silks which combine mauves, yellows and black. The effect of the whole room is both restful and bright. Exceptionally charming as Oare must have been in its original condition, Mr. Fry and Mr. Williams-Ellis are to be warmly congratulated on their successful enlargement of it. Where such close relations exist between client and architect, the credit belongs to both equally. Their work, while perfectly in harmony with the old, has imagination and vitality.

CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY.



18.—GROUND FLOOR PLAN.



19.—MODERN GARDEN SEAT AT THE END OF THE TERRACE.

AT THE THEATRE

BLACKMAIL, MURDER AND OTHER TRIFLES

SIR ALFRED BUTT has now produced "Blackmail," and, as I prophesied last week, the piece turns out to possess no literary merit and not even much theatrical merit. But it is, so far as it goes, what I also prophesied that it would be—effective and amusing. I could not help wondering, as I sat witnessing its many convolutions, when the real comedy which lurks in blackmail is going to be written. Blackmail is a hideous crime, but it does not follow that all plays about it must be dyed in villainous colour. Recent benevolent arrangements have very distinctly smoothed the path for the person who is blackmailed. His identity is screened, and he has the reasonable certainty that he will not be proceeded against for the crime which he has committed. The number of innocent persons who are blackmailed is infinitesimal, and I cannot think of anything jollier than to be blackmailed for something one has not done. Except, of course, that there cannot be very much fun in putting up a front which is justly indignant and making a show of something which is really innocence. Nevertheless, I conceive that to be a moment of joy in which, as the excitable young man in the comedy said, one would "telephone the police with one hand and kick the scoundrel downstairs with the other." But my comedy envisages the case which is so serious that the police cannot overlook it, blackmail or no blackmail, confession or no confession—the capital crime of murder. Possibly the reason the play at the Globe Theatre was not quite such a howling success as is usual on Miss Bankhead's first-nights, was that one felt the girl and her lover-detective were making too much fuss. What were the facts? A young woman accompanies to his studio a painter whom she has just met at a dance. It is after midnight, and the young woman's action springs largely from pique at her lover who objects to her dancing the Alligator Crawl with a peculiarly obnoxious type of dance lizard. The young woman is only half-heartedly vicious. But the painter mistakes the half for the whole, and the girl, snatching up a knife which is lying handy, defends herself so well that the man dies. Well, I do not know much about the law. But it seems to me that the young woman, who had never met the man before and could show plentiful evidence of a struggle, would have a pretty good case. Few young women, even the mannequins at fashionable shops, dangle for invitations to studios for the purpose of murdering perfect strangers. The play was weakened, therefore, when the girl and her lover-detective gave in to the blackmailer so easily, since both had comparatively little to fear.

In the comedy which I want to see written the case would be altogether different. I imagine A to be a rich man possessed of five thousand a year. This sum is an annuity and the fruits of a murder. B, a starving wretch, holds the proofs of the murder and has, or thinks he has, A in the hollow of his hand. B says to A: "Out of your five thousand a year you will give me four thousand." "Can't be done," replies A cheerfully. "Rather than pinch and scrape on a beggarly pittance I'll go to the chair." (My comedy will be American, of course.) B sees the force of this and moderates his demand by five hundred. Still A jibs, and a period of complicated and delicate negotiation sets in which concludes when A says: "Hang it all, man, fifty-fifty, or nothing doing!" That is my first act. Now, if A is a wise man, he will remember that attack is the best form of defence, and he will spring the demand for a reduction upon B to forestall B's obvious demand for an advance. He will say to B, after perhaps a year's time: "You were once a starving wretch. You are now fairly well-to-do, and in the last twelve months have learned the value of being fairly well-to-do. You don't particularly want to return to the gutter. But two thousand out of my five is all I'm going to allow you in the future. You can take it or leave it. In fact, you ought to be overwhelmed by my generosity, for, if you split, it will be the end of me, but also the end of you! For note this, my good fellow, if you have proof of my murder, I have proof of your blackmail, so that your alternative to two thousand a year is not nothing, but nothing when you come out of jail ten years hence!" This scene makes my second act. The third act takes place ten years later. B has saved a thousand a year or so, with the result that A can no longer threaten him with the gutter. Therefore he again approaches A, but A again forestalls him by saying: "I am ten years older, in failing health, and feel the need of a little increased comfort. In fact, I can't afford to allow you more than a thousand a year, and if that doesn't satisfy you, you can do what you like. Remember that we are in America

and that my trial cannot reasonably be concluded in my lifetime!" And as audiences are notoriously averse to plays dealing with affairs of any other interest save that of the heart, I should give the rich man a daughter who, after chirping innocently at the beginning of each act, will now put her head on her father's shoulder and, looking up into her proud parent's face, will say shyly: "Daddy dear, do tell me who the nice gentleman is who always comes to see you whenever we give a dinner-party and just as the guests are arriving." The one thing which has always struck me about blackmailers is that they must belong to the least brainy section of the criminal classes. If I were a blackmailer, I should not be so thriftless as to leave my victim his eyes to weep with. I should leave him one eye.

In Mr. A. A. Milne's gentlemanly play about murder, "The Fourth Wall," at the Haymarket Theatre, the murderers have not the luck to be found out by a blackmailer. Instead, their proceedings are filtered through the drastic sieve of an *ingénue's* mind. This young lady achieves prodigies of gumption, in which she is seconded by her *fiancé*, who is, otherwise, one of those witless creatures whom Mr. Milne creates so wittily. The piece is not without its improbabilities. But they do not matter, and as compensation we are given a lesson in logical deduction which is exceedingly interesting. Nobody, one says firmly, has ever written better first acts than Mr. Milne, and the first act of this piece is a gem. The second act is not so good, but our drooping spirits are revived in the third, with the total result that the evening is very entertaining. I have only one complaint to make, and that concerns the eclipse very early in the piece of Mr. H. R. Hignett. I am getting tired of seeing this more than admirable player condemned to the alternatives of untimely demise and butlering. When will those god-like personages who cast our plays realise that Mr. Hignett is an actor of immense experience, whose work is so polished and whose talent is so resourceful that he can play almost any part, and play it well. He is, above all things, an actor, and I will go a very considerable distance to see any piece on the strength of the single assurance that Mr. Hignett is on the stage, alive and well and with lines to speak, for a period of twenty minutes in each act. This artist is not an old Bensonian for nothing. The interest of "The Fourth Wall" is supposed to begin when Mr. Hignett is shot. Let me say frankly that half the interest in any play disappears as soon as Mr. Hignett is shot. Mr. Frank Cellier gives, as always, a first-class performance. There is also a good piece of acting by a young lady who in the programme is stated to be Miss Nora Swinburne. Now, there are three young actresses whose performances I invariably admire. These three actresses are Miss Nora Swinburne, Miss Norah Robinson and a young lady who is either Miss Mercia Robinson or Miss Mercia Swinburne. They are all charming artists, and I should dearly like to know which is which. I therefore beg and pray some manager to put them all three in the same piece so that, having seen them together, I may be able to tell them apart.

GEORGE WARRINGTON.

THE PLAYBILL

New Arrivals.

BLACKMAIL.—*Globe*.

"A deed of dreadful note."—MACBETH.

THE UNKNOWN WARRIOR.—*Wyndham's*.

"Stand not upon the order of your going,

But go at once."—LADY MACBETH.

A MAN WITH RED HAIR.—*Little*.

"The multiplying villainies of nature

Do swarm upon him."—SERGEANT.

THE FOURTH WALL.—*Haymarket*.

"If th' assassination

Could trammel up the consequence, and catch,

With his surcease, success."—MACBETH.

BACK TO METHUSELAH.—*Court*.

"To the last syllable of recorded time."—MACBETH.

Tried Favourites.

YOUNG WOODLEY.—*Savoy*.

"I cannot but remember such things were,

That were most precious to me."—MACDUFF.

LISTENERS.—*Wyndham's*.

"Dire combustion and confused events."—LENNOX.

SWEENEY TODD.—*Elephant*.

"With his brandished steel,

Which smoked with bloody execution."—SERGEANT.

GOOD MORNING, BILL!—*Duke of York's*.

"Good morrow, noble sir!"—LENNOX.

LIGHT ON THE CUCKOO PROBLEM

By F. GILLETT CORY.

[In the following article Mr. Cory describes a series of most interesting experiments conducted by him last year with a view to discovering (a) whether the cuckoo's instinct to eject the other chicks in a nest could be overcome, (b) whether some plan could be devised to keep the chicks alive as well as the cuckoo. The results of these experiments, revealing, as they do, the physiological mechanism which impels the cuckoo to eject the other chicks and also his method of ejection, are of the greatest scientific interest. Unfortunately, Mr. Cory's photographs were not successful, and we have, therefore, illustrated the article with a series of photographs showing the normal life of a young cuckoo brought up in a meadow pipit's nest from which he has already ejected the pipit's own chicks. It should be distinctly understood that the illustrations are not from photographs of the birds described in Mr. Cory's article.—ED.]

EVEN from the first century, when Pliny, the Roman historian, in his book on natural history, recorded his observations—many correct, but some otherwise—on the cuckoo and its strange activities, this bird has been an almost insoluble problem which countless nature lovers have since then sought to elucidate.

It is, of course, common knowledge that the hen cuckoo lays her eggs in other birds' nests (but not as a schoolboy once remarked, that the cuckoo was a bird that *did not lay her own eggs*!), and that the cuckoo fledgling when scarcely thirty hours old will forthwith proceed to hoist up on his back and eject from the nest of his foster parents its other occupants be they chicks or addled eggs.

At first sight we are disposed to regard such behaviour as savouring of gross cruelty and ingratitude, until we realise that sacrifice is, indeed, one of the great laws of nature. Spiders feed on the flies, birds feed on the spiders, and man feeds on the birds. And man, then, in his turn becomes oft-times the unwilling victim of the flies imbibing his blood. The Psalmist wrote: "The young lions roar after their prey and seek their meat from God." But in doing this He ordained and gave them their instinct, that they should get it hunting their quarry, running it down and finally killing it.

Could the cuckoo's instinct to eject the other chicks be overcome? or would it cease after a few fruitless efforts had been made? or, if remaining, could something be devised whereby the chicks could be kept alive as well as the cuckoo? To endeavour to solve these problems I made the deeply interesting experiments which I now set forth—experiments which proved a complete success.

For with great good fortune an almost unprecedented opportunity presented itself in my garden at Great Livermere, Suffolk, when a cuckoo's egg was hatched out in a currant bush situated only ten yards away from my revolving chalet, with no herbage intervening to obscure an intimate view of all that took place in the nest. The cuckooling was hatched on June 6th at 3 p.m., and I had the nest—a hedge sparrow's—under close observation till June 11th, and throughout this time I watched, either standing close to the nest, or with field glasses from my chalet, every minute detail of the cuckoo's activities. These I recorded every few minutes in a diary; of which the following are but a few excerpts of the many most interesting data I was enabled to obtain.

On June 7th, at 7.30 p.m., although only 28½ hours old, the cuckooling was making his first efforts to get under a chick with the object of hoisting him up to eject him, but his strength was insufficient as yet.

On June 8th, at 8.30 a.m., I found the hen brooding complacently on the cuckoo alone, for her three chicks and an addled egg had been already cast out by him! The former were lying on the ground, 5 ins. below the nest, cold and motionless and truly at their last gasp. I gently returned them, and the egg, to the nest, and an hour later, when fed and warmed by the brooding of the hen, they were all as lively as possible and gaping for food!

In order that no harm should come to the chicks (or egg) if again ejected, I constructed a barricade or platform of strong leaves all round the nest, and I found this answered most effectively, for, when ejected later on, they quietly rolled back uninjured into the nest and sometimes on the cuckooling himself, causing him to fall and stand on his head at the bottom of the nest with his victim on top of him—so surely did Nemesis follow him!

On two days following I watched him as he laboriously climbed up to the brim of the nest and then deliberately eject over the side an imaginary victim, for he had nothing on his back when he did so! After a very heavy storm of rain all night, on June 9th at 5.30 a.m. I found the hen hedge-sparrow looking very wet and bedraggled brooding the cuckooling alone! For he had ejected the egg and the three chicks, and these latter were hanging head downwards, like trussed poultry on a poulterers' shop counter, from the platform around the hen! She did not appear to be in the least moved by this most weird experience, and when she flew off, the cuckooling was lying on his side at the bottom of the nest apparently quite exhausted and overcome by his efforts. I returned the chicks (and egg) into the nest, and very shortly afterwards, the hen having warmed them up, they



R. L. Brown.

THE MEADOW PIPIT PAYS.

Copyright.

were as lively as ever. In the afternoon of the same day the cuckoo actually commenced to hoist up the chicks while the hen was brooding them all, for every now and again a chick's head would be thrust up between her feathers! and as each had long black hair on the top, it looked just like a child's golliwog doll suddenly appearing and then disappearing again.

Later on there were considerable movements taking place under the hen, causing her to rise up in the nest, and then came to view a chick's body being thrust up, followed by the cuckoo, which deliberately ejected it on to the platform right under the very nose of his foster-mother! He then subsided into the nest and proceeded to do the same with the other two chicks! All the time the hen looked on quite calmly and with apparent unconcern as her offspring—"the heirs of her body lawfully begotten," as the lawyers say—were going to their death before her

very eyes! She afterwards brooded the cuckoo and her own chicks when I returned them to the nest, although nothing untoward had happened.

On one occasion when the cuckoo, with much effort had climbed up half way with a chick on his back, it was most ludicrous to see him stop and then both he and his victim open wide their beaks simul-

taneously for food! Getting none, the rest of the climb was accomplished, and the chick forthwith ejected over the brim. I, however, replaced it in the nest.

The following list well shows the extraordinary vitality and activity displayed by this just-hatched cuckoo during only two days, *i.e.*, from early on June 8th to early on June 10th.

He hoisted up a chick part of the way	9 times.
He ejected a chick over the brim	28 "
" " an egg over the brim	6 "
" " an imaginary victim over the brim	2 "
TOTAL	45 times.

During these forty-five times I personally watched *close to the nest* the cuckooing in the very act of hoisting up and ejecting a chick, egg, or imaginary victim some thirty-two times in all! In this most unique experience I have been enabled to observe even the minutest details of every method of procedure he adopted.

What struck me as being most singular was, although the cuckooing remained completely blind, owing to the membrane covering his eyes during the whole four days I had him under observation, yet, every few hours he devised some fresh improvement in his method of ejecting chick or egg, as will be seen at the various stages mentioned directly.

In what way could this just-hatched cuckoo have learned to improve his methods? It could not have been from inherited



"MORE PLEASE."

instinct, for, under all ordinary circumstances, when his predecessors had once ejected the chicks they had never to do it a second time, but in my experiments my cuckooing had to do it *forty-five times*.

At the *first stage*, having wriggled his way under the chick and got him on his back, having worked his way up backwards to the brim by

digging his sharply-curved claws into the side of the nest, he all the time supported the weight of his body and the chicks by placing the tip of his wings on the bottom of the nest, while he craned his neck and head straight before him. When climbing, too, he had to rest several times to recuperate his strength. Having ejected the chick he then revolved his wings in an aimless manner.

At the *second stage*, after that he had arrived at the brim (and ejected the chick), he steadied himself by leaning his weight against it and revolved both pinions alternately backwards, like the sails of a windmill, to ascertain thereby if the chick was anywhere to be felt near the nest!

At the *third stage*, instead of craning his neck and head forwards and using his pinions to support his weight and the chicks, as previously, he now stretched his neck downwards to the uttermost and placed his head on the bottom of the nest to act as a fulcrum while climbing, and also elevated both his pinions one on either side of the chick to keep it securely on his back. Arriving at the brim he revolved them as in the second stage.

At the *fourth stage*, having now sufficient strength in his legs to climb without support, he simply hung his head downwards parallel with his body and, reaching the brim, he sat actually on its edge, placed the tip of each wing on the *outside* of its upper part, having the pollex (thumb) resting on the edge, so that he might thereby use them as the fulcrum the better to enable him to push his back outwards or to either side, so shoving the chick farther and farther away from the vicinity of the nest!



R. L. Brown.

THE MEAL ARRIVES.



GREAT EXPECTATIONS.

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The part of the cuckoo's back on which he hoisted the chick or egg was not between the shoulders, as some have averred, but in a very manifest *concave* depression in his loins, which, as soon as he reached the brim, he made *convex* and thus propelled the chick away from the nest. On one occasion when he was climbing I placed my finger in this hollow space, and he tried his utmost for some considerable time to eject it over the brim, employing a quite astonishing amount of force to do so.

When I took the cuckooing out of the nest I found that this concave depression was extremely sensitive to the touch, for when I gently pressed my finger into it or near it, he seemed to be under the influence of an uncontrollable frenzy, throwing himself about and *revolving his wings!* apparently getting no rest or respite till the touch was removed. In this hypersensitive depression may be found the solution of the cuckooing's strange activities! It may be that he *must* get rid of the other occupants of the nest, lest perchance by their presence they should touch, and so irritate the hypersensitive nerves of that particular part of his anatomy.

It is well to note that not one of the chicks was the least bit worse for having been ejected by the cuckooing on to the platform which I had made, for after they had been brooded over by the hen they were as lively as possible. In fact, the exercise seemed to have been beneficial to both the cuckoo and chicks, like the rough and tumble play of kittens or puppies increases their growth and vitality.

As the cuckoo has been described by many writers as being zygodactyl (*i.e.*, two toes forwards and two backwards), I very carefully watched to ascertain their position when climbing. I found that the third or outer toe, being very mobile and loosely hinged at the joint, could move in a radius of half a circle, so that at times it was in a line with the front toes and at others with the hind toe, its placement depending entirely upon the exigency of the moment. When at rest this third toe was *always* in a line with the front toes, as it was also when he was dead.

When I found, after three and a half days, that the cuckooing still persisted in ejecting the chicks if he came in contact with them, I left them in the hen's nest and removed him, placing him in one that was empty, in which the same pair of hedge-sparrows had brought up their previous brood. I then fixed it in the same currant bush only two or three inches away from the other. From my revolving chalet I then watched to see what would happen.

Soon both the cock and hen arrived and manifested the greatest excitement, hopping round and round the strange nest, evidently discussing together this new phase of the housing problem! The hen was so overcome by her matronly feelings she felt she must do something, and so forthwith flew off, returning with some dry leaves in her beak which she placed in the nest. Both then fed the cuckooing as well as their own chicks.

Yet, strange to say, a few minutes later she passed him by completely, although he gaped for food, and fed and brooded her chicks *alone* in her own nest, and while doing so she was constantly raising herself to look at the cuckooing in the strange nest. The cock, however, fed him as well as his own chicks.

As, about two hours later, very heavy storms of rain came on, I took the cuckooing out of the strange nest (covering it up) and brought him indoors, feeding him with milk off the end of an egg spoon, which he sucked off most contentedly. I also caught all the small insects I could find in the house and introduced them into his gaping mouth by the aid of a narrow pointed dressing forceps.

I kept him covered in cotton wool and also warmed him up between my hands, which he seemed much to appreciate. Several times he uttered some loud squeaks—a most unusual thing in a just-hatched bird of his size.

After the rain storms were over I changed the occupants of the two nests, placing the three chicks in the strange nest and the cuckooing in the hen's own nest. But now the hen acted in a most mysterious manner, doing just the reverse of that which she had done previously, for, when she came she deliberately passed by her own chicks in the strange nest, although gaping for food, and proceeded to feed and brood over the cuckooing in her own nest.

The difficulty which confronted me now was how could I keep the chicks alive and the cuckooing as well? How could I prevent him from molesting them and yet for them *all* to be mothered by the hen? To solve this problem I got a much larger nest and placed a partition of doubled green baize in the middle and packed it round with dry moss till I got it to the shape and size of the hen's nest. I then put it in the fork of the currant bush, for her own nest was now sodden through by the drenching rains. On one side of the partition I placed the chicks and on the other the cuckooing.

To my great delight both cock and hen came and fed them *all repeatedly*, evidently eyeing my improvements (*sic*) with curiosity, mixed, I trust, with gratitude at my efforts to solve their most difficult domestic problems. As it was getting late, I was compelled to leave them for the night.

When I came to the nest early on Friday morning, June 11th, to my intense disappointment I found them all cold and lifeless. What had happened must, of course, remain a mystery. Was the hen frightened off the nest, as she had been the previous day by the storms and boisterous winds swaying the currant

bush? Or did she fail to feed and brood them all from some other cause?

It has been already stated that, when not interfered with, the just-hatched cuckoo, so soon as he is thirty hours old, straightway ejects the other occupants from the nest so that they perish from inanition and exposure within half an hour. It has been, therefore, a most remarkable feat to have them kept all alive together for four and a half consecutive days.

As this experiment of placing the cuckooing and the chicks in the same nest, but separated by a partition has been such a notable success, most assuredly herein lies the solution of this centuries-old cuckoo problem, for I found that when this was done the cuckooing did not make one single attempt to molest the chicks.

It is earnestly to be hoped that, as opportunity serves, other nature lovers will carry out this experiment. And as the cuckooing increases in size more room could be made for him in the nest by removing the moss which had been introduced to make it smaller. And as the foster mother could not then brood him at night, as well as her own chicks, he might be brought indoors, kept warm and returned to the nest in the early morning.

The vigour and vitality displayed by this young cuckoo have been simply amazing. On the fourth day he weighed just half an ounce, and each chick one third of an ounce; he thus had been able to hoist up nearly his own weight a distance of two inches—the depth of the nest—and then eject it over the brim not once only, but *nearly forty times!*

Through careful observation I have been enabled to make, one may regard it as an established fact that the purpose of the male cuckoo in placing himself, as he so often does, on the dead branch of a tree and there cuckooing persistently is that he may act as a decoy to entice the little birds from their nest in which the hen cuckoo intends to deposit her egg. The small birds thus fly away from their nest to mob him, because of their instinctive antipathy to his species, thereby leaving the coast clear for the hen cuckoo surreptitiously to place her egg in it during their absence.

This readily accounts for the male bird cuckooing on some occasions even two or three hundred times at a stretch, the reason for his long continuance being the refusal of the little birds to quit the vicinity of their nest. Some interesting exposures of the cuckooing were made, but, unfortunately, the negativess proved failures.

FARMYARD MANURE

THE recent issue of the Scottish Journal of Agriculture discusses a new method of making farmyard manure which has been perfected in Germany in recent years, the product being known as "Edelmist." This material has caused considerable interest among German agriculturists, and the results of field experiments indicate that Edelmist is much superior to the ordinary manure.

Edelmist must, however, be regarded as a specially manufactured product on a farm, and under German conditions the system fits in well with existing practices. Thus, a large proportion of the cattle are stall-fed, which means that the manure must be daily removed to a dung heap. This has made it possible to consider the erection of special dung-steads, and the new system, seen at its best, demands a special structure, though this is by no means formidable.

The first step in the making of Edelmist is to encourage the manure to undergo rapid fermentation. To secure this the concrete foundation of the dung-stead is covered with a layer of loose material to a depth of a foot, to facilitate the circulation of air in the deposited manure, and it also assists in the draining off of the liquid. The first day's supply of dung is built on a rectangular section, the area being just sufficient to give a depth of 2½ ft. of loosely dumped manure. Though it is not essential, wooden boards can be utilised to keep the heap within bounds, a special arrangement enabling the boards to be built one above the other as the heap advances in height. The aeration of the manure encourages rapid fermentation, as a result of which in the first few days a rapid rise of temperature takes place. Usually, no difficulty is experienced in getting the temperature to 55° to 65° C. (130° to 150° Fahr.) within two to four days. When this temperature is reached, the heap is thoroughly trampled in order to compact it and thus reduce the fermentation, and is then covered with a loose layer of fresh dung, and allowed to remain undisturbed for at least three to four months. It will be recognised that each day's dung supply must be placed on a fresh area until the temperature has reached the 55° to 65° C. level, and thus the manure heap is built up in a series of steps. The height of the completed heap should not be less than 6 ft. to 9 ft., but may be as much as 18 ft. to 20 ft. Naturally, the greater the height the less the loss in respect of both dry matter and nitrogen. In order to fill the dung-stead at the maximum height, it is possible to employ either a small crane or elevator.

The definite scientific advantages which are claimed for Edelmist arise out of the fact that when unrotted dung is applied to the soil it encourages the growth of soil micro-organisms which compete with growing plants for the available nitrogenous compounds of the soil and of nitrogenous fertilisers. Though

these ultimately become available for crops on the death of the micro-organisms, their period of usefulness is delayed. Edelmist, on the other hand, provides the soil with a decomposed material in which the nitrogen is available from the time of its application. It is claimed, furthermore, that the composition of Edelmist is more uniform than ordinary farmyard manure, owing to its carefully controlled system of manufacture. The manure itself is easy to handle and is in a short or well rotted condition, and practically odourless. The early fermentation to which it is subjected also does much to ensure that weed seeds, which are so frequently spread by the dung heap, are destroyed.

Doubtless, the possible relation of Edelmist to British agriculture will be carefully considered. It is not likely to prove of value except where the dung has to be cleared every day from stalls, as the yard and box dung of the average English farm is a very efficient fertiliser. Edelmist is likely to appeal to the dairy farmer, however, and it has definite possibilities on this type of farm. The process is protected in this country, and the patentees of the special dung-steads are the firm of Garstatt, G.m.b.H., München 2 s.w., Lindwurmstrasse 88.

KENT, SURREY AND SUSSEX FARMERS' BACON FACTORY.

The mortgagees of the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Farmers' bacon factory at Lenham, near Maidstone, have placed this factory on sale in the region of £9,000 as a result of its failure as a co-operative venture. This factory has not had any measure of success, and it is to be feared that its fate will be used as another illustration that co-operation cannot be successfully applied to English agriculture. It is interesting to note the history of this concern. The factory was acquired in 1922, but it was not conveniently laid out for the purposes in view, and required adaptation. Expense was occasioned through an unsuitable water supply and drainage which were brought into line with the requirements, while too much hand labour was necessitated owing to lack of modern plant and machinery. Curing operations were commenced in November, 1923, and after fourteen months' trading at a loss, the factory was closed down in March, 1925. At the close of its career

it had some 750 members and a subscribed capital of £23,775. The factory, which was originally used for a different purpose, cost £7,000, but the alterations and acquisition of a manager's house brought the cost up to £11,700, while equipment added a further £6,800. The estimated weekly output capacity was 500 pigs, which meant an initial outlay of £37 per pig.

One of the principal causes of failure was the insufficient supply of pigs. Thus, in the working period the weekly average was only 244, or about half the total capacity. Members were under no legal obligation to supply pigs, and this seems to be a weakness of the co-operative scheme in this country. Furthermore, the methods of curing were not modern, tank curing equipment only being installed just before the factory was closed down. The bulk of the bacon was sold through wholesale agencies and a large sausage trade was also built up.

THE RABBITS AND ROOKS BILL.

No one with an intimate knowledge of agricultural difficulties can quite understand the rejection of the Rabbits and Rooks Bill in the House of Lords last Session. The Bill was originally introduced as a private Member's measure in the House of Commons, and received the assent of Members of all parties. When it was referred to a Select Committee, the National Farmers' Union obtained particulars of concrete cases of damage done to crops by rabbits and rooks. This was a formidable list, and the N.F.U. appears to have a very good case in complaining that "although the rest of the evidence taken by the Committee was printed, the Union's list was suppressed."

This question is one, however, which should not be allowed to rest where it is. In the course of my own experience during the last few seasons I have seen fields stripped by rabbits, with farmers quite helpless to protect themselves except by the purchase of considerable quantities of wire netting—an expense which few can afford at the present time. Rooks are similarly prone to cause serious disturbance by their attacks on certain crops in the seeding stages. It may be argued that they are in search of other food, and act as benefactors in certain directions, but it is quite evident that in many districts their numbers are all too many. In some areas it is next to impossible to secure a crop of maize unless the field is most effectively covered with devices for warding off their depredations.

The MAKING of a GREAT PRO-CONSUL

The Life of Lord Curzon, by the Earl of Ronaldshay. Vol. I. (Benn, 21s. net.)

SEEING that Lord Curzon's life was so clearly divided into three distinct periods, each represented by a separate sphere of activity, it was wise of his official biographer to write the story of his career in three distinct parts, and it was equally fitting that each part should appear in a separate volume by itself. The first volume, which is now given to the public, is occupied with Lord Curzon's activities down to 1898, when he was appointed to succeed Lord Elgin as Viceroy of India. The outstanding event of Curzon's life, that by which he will be remembered when the personal tradition has faded, was his great viceroyalty, and I think it may be claimed that as time goes on the unique qualities he displayed in his tenure of that exalted office are being more and more realised. It is, therefore, to the second volume that we shall look to find the real picture of this great man at the height of his powers. The present volume may be regarded as an elaborate description of the making of a great Pro-Consul. From the day when he first set foot in Calcutta—if not long before that time—all George Curzon's studies, travels and occupations might have been an intentional course of training for a viceroy designate. Just as the son of a great shipbuilder might, if he were destined to follow in his father's footsteps, go through all the shops, so did Lord Curzon, by his many journeys in the Far East, his deep studies of the Eastern question and his Parliamentary experience, exactly fit himself for the office of Viceroy of India.

The present volume probably represents the most difficult part of Lord Ronaldshay's task, for in it he has not only had to describe the youth and young manhood of George Curzon, but has, quite rightly, always kept in view his paramount duty of explaining the complex and often contradictory character of his brilliant subject, and by a most carefully made selection from letters and notes he is able to piece together the many and various elements in Curzon's nature. For, to understand either the man or the Viceroy it is necessary to realise the co-existence in him of vanity and humility, sternness and sentimentality, sententiousness and youthful exuberance, in addition to such fundamental qualities as moral courage, inexhaustible industriousness and unquenchable enthusiasm, all of which he possessed in a very high degree. He had an amazing will power over himself, and would expose himself to great physical suffering and immense fatigue without any consideration of the consequences. Nothing worth doing was ever regarded by him as troublesome, and he never attempted to spare himself in any way. He would always sooner write a letter himself than dictate it, and was apt to leave his private

secretaries idle. He wrote with astonishing rapidity, and would complete letter, envelope, sealing and stamping in the space of time most of us require for writing an address. Lord Ronaldshay quotes a good example of his meticulous attention to detail in connection with the engagement of a cook for the Viceregal Lodge in Simla (see page 106). His capacity for taking infinite pains was accompanied, as is so frequently the case, by an incapacity to draw the line at what was worth doing, and consequently, in spite of a brilliant memory, he would make elaborate notes, not only of everything he had done, but also of everything he intended to do!

Throughout the volume we observe that Lord Ronaldshay wishes to allow George Curzon's contemporaries to explain the characteristics of this very remarkable man rather than attempt the task single handed, and he summarises this evidence in the following words:

It is impossible to draw from the correspondence . . . a picture of anything but a generous, warm-hearted man, eminently companionable, essentially lovable, the very antithesis of the proud and disdainful figure, haughtily reserved, cut off by invisible but none the less real barriers from the generality of his fellow men, which to the public George Curzon appeared to be.

Over and over again in these pages we can see that Lord Ronaldshay is obsessed by his consciousness that Curzon was apt to command in those who were not his intimates admiration rather than affection and devotion rather than friendship, and he points out that even at a youthful age "the veil which all his life hid the real man from the public gaze and gave rise to such false estimates of him was not easily penetrated even by his friends."

After George Curzon left Oxford in 1883 and had begun to devote himself to politics, he was still dazzled by the lure of academic success, and suddenly decided to enter for the Arnold Prize. "For fifteen weeks he lived the life of a recluse in London, spending long hours at the British Museum and working from eleven o'clock one morning until four o'clock the next." The present writer has heard him relate that during this period he used to dine at The Horse Shoe Tavern in Tottenham Court Road, and for the sake of distraction would sometimes wander into the Oxford Music Hall.

In connection with the beginnings of George Curzon's political career we are told much that is interesting, but still more interesting are the brief descriptions of his journeys through and round the world, and from the outset we may observe that unbounded enthusiasm for historical and archaeological research which was destined to lay India under such a deep obligation to him as Viceroy for the preservation and restoration of her monuments.

When, in 1895, Lord Salisbury had accepted somewhat reluctantly the Foreign Office in addition to the Premiership, he wrote to Curzon: "And now having to undertake it at a time when much difficulty seems to impend, I am naturally trying to secure the best assistance that I can. Therefore I venture to turn to you. You are more familiar with Eastern questions than any man on our side and your ability and position in the House of Commons will enable you to fight a good battle for us if our policy is attacked in the House. I hope, therefore, you will not refuse to accept the Under-Secretaryship of Foreign Affairs." During the three and a half years that he held this subordinate but onerous post he displayed absolute loyalty to his chief, although it often happened that in the House he had to defend a policy to which he was actually opposed. This was especially the case in regard to Lord Salisbury's Far Eastern diplomacy, and Chapter XIX, entitled "Clouds in the Far East," is one of the most interesting and instructive of this volume. The incidents connected with the appropriation of Port Arthur by the Russians are told with admirable fairness and restraint, and make excellent reading. George Curzon's own estimate of the situation coincided with that of the public rather than with the optimistic inaction of the Government. Lord Ronaldshay recalls the circumstances which, at this juncture, gave rise to a phrase of Curzon's which has passed into the language. In reply to the question how it was that the Pekin correspondent of the *Times* was able to publish facts of the highest importance several days before the Foreign Office, the Under-Secretary said:

I hesitate to say what the functions of the modern journalist are: but I imagine they do not exclude the intelligent anticipation of facts even before they occur, and in this somewhat unequal competition I think the House will see that the journalist whose main duty is speed, is likely sometimes to get the advantage over the diplomatist whose main object is accuracy.

How strongly Curzon disapproved of the Government's policy, or want of policy, at this time is made abundantly clear by one or two extracts from private letters to his friends which are here quoted. Lord Ronaldshay, who so often, in the course of his narrative, takes a peep at the subsequent career of his hero, stands up in his defence in the following striking paragraph, which deserves quotation in full, as it explains, perhaps, better than any other passage in this volume his high opinion of George Curzon's political integrity:

It may be argued that in the circumstances in which he found himself George Curzon should have resigned rather than permit himself to be associated with a policy in which he disagreed. The same dilemma arose at a much later period in his life, when, as Foreign Secretary, he seemed to acquiesce in a policy with which he was not in sympathy, and which to all appearances was imposed upon him by the masterful will of the then Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George. In both cases resignation would have been easy—though from a personal point of view distasteful. But would resignation have advanced the cause which George Curzon had at heart? He was, I think, quite sincerely convinced in each case, not merely that his resignation would not help matters, but that it would be positively injurious to the interests of the country.

We shall, however, be curious to see how Lord Ronaldshay deals later with the Curzon-Kitchener controversy, when Curzon did resign and, according to many, should not have done so.

The time has not yet come to pass judgment on Lord Ronaldshay's work, but it may be unhesitatingly claimed that the beginning of his portrait displays all the requisite craftsmanship and gives promise of a fitting and complete presentation of one of the greatest Englishmen of his day.

E. DENISON ROSS.

Wanderers: Episodes from the Travels of Lady Emmeline Stuart-Wortley and her daughter Victoria, 1849-1855, by Mrs. Henry Cust. (Jonathan Cape, 12s. 6d.)

THE passion for travel is confined to no age, no class, no sex. It is a gift—or a curse—of the gods. It is a thirst, a driving demon, an insatiable master. It breaks out, an irresistible impulse at the most unlikely times in the most unbelievable natures. But, surely, the most unlikely spot of all for the demon to find an abiding place must have been in the Early Victorian bosom of that intrepid traveller whose wanderings her granddaughter, Mrs. Henry Cust, has put together so

delightfully for the astonishment of our luxury-travelling days. For she appears to have swept in her elegant and voluminous Victorian skirts, her bonnet, her flowing veil and inevitable parasol over half the globe, and trailed with her—for the good of her health!—her delicate eleven year old daughter Victoria—god-daughter of the good young Queen. An amazing record, and vastly entertaining. They visited America; went south and dared the Mississippi steamers, travelling the length of the mighty river; at last to Mexico, where, "adorned with thief-tempting *chateaines* and conspicuous bonnets, they set to and explored every attainable corner" of that malodorous city. Thence, of all incredible adventures, they crossed the Isthmus of Panama in a dug-out, and this at a time when a gold-rush was on, attracting the worst characters from every part of the world. The Pacific coast knew them next—Peru, Lima—back to the Caribbean Sea and Jamaica. And, throughout, the lady observes, compares, praises judiciously, disparages without fear; and the child diligently sketches for her portfolio all that comes to her pencil. Portugal, Madeira, Spain see them the next year with even greater discomforts of bad roads, brigands and dirty hostels. Morocco, Tangier, even Tetuan, know them next, in company with *contrabandisti* and snake-charmers. Then begins, in 1855, the most remarkable of the journeys, for they set out for Constantinople to see her son Henry, then serving in the Crimean War, *en route* for that incredible undertaking, seeing the state of the country, a journey in Syria. A broken leg, which involves her being carried on a litter, does not shake her determination; wild Bedouins of the Beni Sakh have no terrors; ill equipped encampments in the deserts, drunken dragomen do not deter her. At last the poor, faithful maid Coe, who has shared all their wanderings, dies of fever. Lady Emmeline is attacked by dysentery. Nevertheless, they still determine to go by the northern Lebanon road to Beyrout from Antioch, a wild and arduous undertaking. The drunken dragoman deserts them. "Then I had to do everything," wrote Victoria later, "to act as maid and interpreter, to keep the men



"ROCKS AT HAND, ROBBERS IN THE DISTANCE."

A sketch by Lady Emmeline Stuart-Wortley, from "Wanderers."

in order, to see after Mamma, who was almost in a stupor, to cook, and pack up; in the midst of which I caught my fever, and nearly died." "It was only haltingly and with nightmare effort that the little party crept on its tragic way." When at last death put an end to the insatiable wanderer, the desolate child faced the Syrian dawn alone from her desert tent. A most remarkable and astonishing record of a life, this; the more so as, apart from some desultory writings, the journeys have no purpose of discovery, of scholarship, of record, nor, one would think, of mere amusement—certainly not of notoriety. It is just the tourist, the sightseer raised to the *n*th degree.

The Way the World is Going, by H. G. Wells. (Benn, 7s. 6d.)

IN this volume Mr. Wells has collected a year's articles; and very characteristic they are. His natural element is neither to-day nor yesterday, but to-morrow. It is an interesting, often an exciting and stimulating to-morrow that he sees; and he writes about it with all his usual lucidity, trenchancy and good temper. But some of us find it also, on the whole, a very material to-morrow. He is at his best when he is discussing the trend of affairs in Italy, China and America, or the future of democracy, aeroplanes, British politics and broadcasting; at his worst when he is dealing with such subjects as vivisection, the future of the novel and immortality. For Mr. Wells seems to be content with his brain—his admirable and enviable brain. He does not appear to feel the need to break down the walls of intellect and adventure into that void where spirit, not brain, is supreme. The void is vast and lonely, and its lights shine fitfully and do not illumine the landscape in any orderly and dependable manner. But those lights, compared with the lights of the intellect, are as stars to electric bulbs. Mr. Wells gives us the impression that he is thoroughly satisfied with electric bulbs—provided that they are of the very best kind that science, so far, can produce, and that science sees its way to devising something better still in the future. Therefore he does not even begin to understand the real point of view of the anti-vivisectionist or the believer in personal immortality; and he can write that "there is nothing left for the novel nowadays but crime and adultery, if public life, economic forces and the highly individualised personalities directing them are to be taboo"—which is exactly as if he said, "All future novels must be written by people just like me, or they will not be novels at

all." But give Mr. Wells a subject like Sacco and Vanzetti, Lord Birkenhead, or the worst film in the world, and he delivers the most skilful and joyous of thwacks; while, give him the subject of war, and his white-hot passion for peace can make us forget that we have found in him any limitations at all.

Arrogant Beggar, by Anzia Yezierska. (Heinemann, 7s. 6d.)

DO the people who write publishers' puffs ever read more than a page of the books they praise? This question is raised anew by Messrs. Heinemann's dictum upon *Arrogant Beggar*, by Anzia Yezierska. This, the jacket gives me to understand, is a sentimental, humorous trifle, a "pretty-pretty, sweet-sweet" little story. Whereupon I discover—not with surprise, knowing the methods of puff writers—that it is a passionately serious attempt to describe the feelings of a sensitive, poverty-stricken girl who is "taken up" by a professional philanthropist. Certainly there is a satirical humour in places, and the ending is sentimental—that is, it is one the author would like to happen, but which has no probability in real life. But both humour and sentiment are unconscious and incidental. The main purport of the book is to show that the salvation of the poor and downtrodden must come from within, and that no outside help will lift them unless they first learn to "stand on their own feet." Annette, the "Arrogant Beggar," is a wholly credible mixture of fire, fury and illogicality. She rightly makes one fearful of offering the dry bread of charity without the butter of love. Muhmenkeh, the old Jewess who makes a home for her when the institutional "home" has failed her, is that rare creation, a person whose real goodness shines out of her without making her unattractive. This author understands so well the life of the poor Polish Jews of New York, and portrays it so vividly, that it is to be hoped she will exploit this field further.

The Suburban Young Man, by E. M. Delafield. (Hutchinson, 7s. 6d.)

SOMEONE has been foolish enough to ask Miss Delafield to write a novel about "nice people," with the result that she has written a very nice novel which might have come from the pen of any other nice but undistinguished novelist. It is all about a young man, Peter Jannett, very tepidly married and indifferently the father of twin sons, who meets a girl from a much higher social sphere and proceeds to fall in love with her. Peter is for Antoinette Rochester the one love of a fastidious life, and the story is that of their reactions and those of their two very different social circles to the fact of their love and their way of facing it. Whether the effort to be nice has proved a little too much for Miss Delafield I cannot say, but her eye for fine social distinctions seems hardly as good as in books where she has been more engrossed with truth to life and character than with mere niceness. For all that her gifts will not wholly be hidden, the vague delightful Lady Rochester, Antoinette herself with her distinction and negative rather than positive strength, Peter's wife Hope and his sister-in-law Norah are all authentic Delafield. Probably I am not very nice myself and other people will like this book better than its predecessors, instead of sighing for a Miss Delafield who was sincere about both sides of the human medal and was often very funny about them too.

A SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY LIST.

THE LIFE OF LORD CURZON, by the Earl of Ronaldshay (Benn, Vol. I, £1 1s.); REPUTATION, by Captain B. H. Liddell-Hart (Murray, 12s. 6d.); SIR WALTER RALEIGH, by Milton Waldman (Bodley Head, 12s. 6d.); RACHEL, by James Agate (Howe 3s. 6d.); FICTION—ETCHED IN MOONLIGHT, by James Stephens (Macmillan 7s. 6d.); NOR SHALL MY SWORD SLEEP, by Stella Callaghan (Skeffington, 7s. 6d.); THE OLD TREE BLOSSOMED, by Ernest Raymond (Cassell, 7s. 6d.); THEY RETURN AT EVENING, by H. R. Wakefield (Philip Allan, 7s. 6d.).

THE BATTLE OF THE SERVICES

IN spite of the rise and growth of Rugby in the Royal Air Force, the match between the Navy and the Army is the great event of the year in Service football; it is always a game well worth watching, though the football does not rise to a high level invariably—there is too much keenness for that—and the result is not necessarily very close.

This is one of the occasions when the King makes a practice of watching the representatives of his Forces at play, and last week, as usual, he brought Royal weather with him. There was also a great assembly of the "rulers of the King's Navee" with their opposite numbers from the Army. Whether the presence of all these distinguished personages affects the play of the teams I do not know, but I always fancy they must feel rather like schoolboys when they know the "Head" is watching them, the sort of feeling that if they do well he, the Head, will get the credit for it, but, if they do badly, it will be remembered against them in the future.

But about the enthusiasm of the rest of the crowd at this match there can be no doubt; even a deaf, dumb and blind man could not be unconscious of the electric waves which stir the ether—I wonder if that is why they do not broadcast this match!—and from kick-off to "no side" the cheers and counter cheers are continuous.

Last Saturday the Navy were the under dogs, and as such had the sympathy of most unbiased observers. For one thing they were, on paper, clearly the weaker side; they could only field two old Internationals against the plethora of stars to be found in the Army ranks, and also they were unable to pit their strongest team against their most formidable opponents. The loss of their peerless full-back, K. A. Sellar, was bad enough, though they were, fortunately, able to find an efficient substitute for him, but the loss of their most promising scrum-half, J. H. Forbes, was even more serious and, as it turned out, half-back proved to be the Navy's weakest point on this occasion.

It had been reported that Guardsman Rees, the Army full-back and Welsh International, would be prevented from playing, but, after all, he turned out and played a capital game.

The Army back division was immeasurably superior to that of the Navy, both on paper and in fact. The three-quarters—three of the four were Internationals—were always dangerous when in action, and playing behind forwards who secured the ball three times out of four in the tight scrummages, and served by Arthur Young and Cole, they should have run up a tremendous score. That they did not do so was partly their own fault, for seldom have so many mistakes been made in the giving and taking of passes in such an important game, but it was also due to the stout-hearted defence of the Navy.

The Army captain, Lieutenant A. R. Aslett, was the best of the bunch; he was at the top of his form, and both in attack and defence set an excellent example to his men. Lieutenant G. V. Palmer, who played so well on the wing for England against France, was in the centre on this occasion, and was too much inclined to snatch his passes, an old fault, so that his dashes for the line all went astray. Lieutenant Sir T. G. Devitt played his usual plucky game with all his customary limitations—his physical frailty will never permit his performance to be equal to his purpose—and Lieutenant G. J. Bryan on the other wing was just what he always has been, a good class three-quarter who will never reach the International standard.

Lieutenant A. T. Young (Royal Tank Corps), who must surely require a special diminutive tank to fit his proportions, was the chameleon player we expect him to be. If anyone wishes to design a new maze, I suggest they should trace Young's movements on a football field; it would make Hampton Court and similar puzzles seem mere child's play. At times Young was very, very good; at other times he was horrid—at least his passes were! The worst of Arthur Young is that he requires a team of Arthur Youngs to play with; nobody else could hope to solve the intricacies of his "devolutions" and, as a matter of fact, his own side are kept guessing by his methods as much as his opponents.

J. R. Cole, the stand-off half, is a most promising player. He is not unlike H. C. Laird on the field, and resembles him also in his methods. He opened up the game well for his three-quarters and showed nice judgment in his kicking and cutting through.

While the Army owed much to their backs, the efforts of the finest outsiders in the world would have been of little avail without forwards to secure the ball in the scrummages. The Army pack made no mistake about that, their hooking was worthy of Sam Tucker, and they were particularly good in the line-out. Lance-Corporal Townend, Guardsman Gibbons and Lieutenant H. McVicker were the best of them, though Lieutenant W. F. Browne showed us just enough of those impetuous, dashing bursts of his to remind us of the brilliant player he was.

On the other side, Midshipman C. G. Gosling made a most creditable *début*. He had a difficult rôle to fill, that of substitute for Sellar, but he gave the impression of being the most likely successor to his colleague as England's full-back in years to come. He is still inexperienced and has not acquired that sense of position which is so essential for a full-back, but his kicking kept an excellent length, was accurate, and his tackling was generally most reliable.

The back play of the Navy outsiders was crude and unenlightened as a whole, and must have been a sad disappointment to Captain S. P. Start, the old English International and sole Navy selector. They never played like a team; they were a group of individuals, who relied too much on trying to "bullock" their way through, rather than on any *finesse*. In defence they were much better, Lieutenants H. W. V. Stephenson and W. H. Wood (being particularly good in this respect). The halves got few opportunities of feeding their three-quarters, and Lieutenant S. H. Carlill devoted his energies to marking Young—with varied success. Lieutenant A. R. Freeman was badly out of position at first, but, later, scored the Navy's only try and showed much more initiative than his colleagues.

The forwards played a rousing game in the loose, though they need a few lessons from Captain E. W. Roberts in control of the ball; some of their rushes deserved a better fate than befell them. One missed our old lower-deck friends Luddington and Gardner, the Navy's Heavenly Twins, and no one has quite filled their places since they left the Navy team, but Lieutenants D. P. Trentham, A. A. Havers and Surgeon-Lieutenant L. B. Osborne all played a sterling game, and Sub-Lieutenant J. W. Linton was useful as a handy man, though he has not fulfilled the early promise of his matches at the beginning of this season.

Altogether, this was a regular, royal game, with the weaker side fighting on gamely to the end and doing quite as much of the pressing as their victors.

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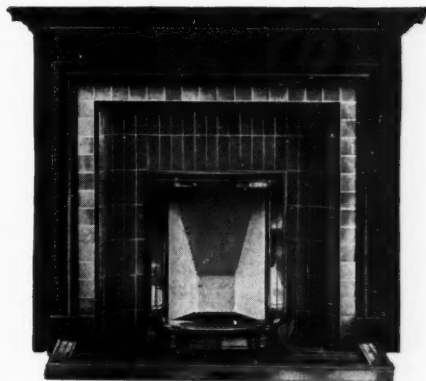
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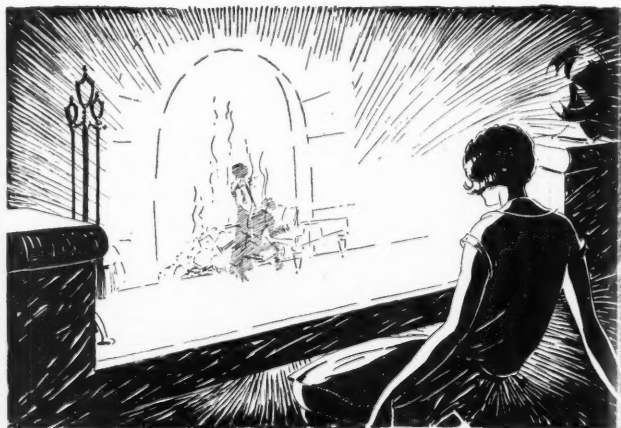
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CORRESPONDENCE

RELATIVE HARDINESS OF PLANTS.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Some weeks ago a correspondent in COUNTRY LIFE stated that a Californian (?) shrub, *Fabiana imbricata*, flourished and flowered at Frensham and Burford. This letter was in reference to a statement in one of the articles on the Riviera gardens, that this particular shrub was only hardy in England in the mild south-west. This is a direct example of the subject of relative hardiness which has been dealt with more than once in the gardening section of this paper. It is only natural that there are exceptions to every rule, but the exceptions in the so-called tenderness of plants are so numerous that a further letter on the subject may not prove out of place. Two factors must be taken into consideration: first, the plants that prove the exception; second, the particular situation of the garden. It is true that we know little of the exact requirements of most exotic plants, particularly of trees and shrubs that take many years to come to maturity. We may know roughly the conditions under which they grow, but no collector has the time to collect the vital statistics of maximum and minimum temperature, of the power of the sun, of the prevailing winds, of the rainfall, and so on, which will tell us the exact position, to within a few feet, under which an exotic will flourish in this country. In the case of plants of doubtful hardiness, such as *Fabiana imbricata*, it would be valuable if the information could be gained by an inverse process. Here is a plant which all gardeners who have seen it admire immensely but are frightened to attempt to grow owing to its reputation. Here is a gardener who can grow it within not so many miles of London, in a climate that is not particularly soft. If our correspondent could give particulars of situation, soil and temperature, it would certainly be of assistance to other admirers of this magnificent shrub. This is only one example; there are many others that could be cited, such as some of the rhododendrons, magnolias, hibiscus, camellias and leptospermums. It is not a question entirely of hardiness. Surely, in many cases it is lack of knowledge of their exact requirements. This misused word "hardiness" depends not only on the minimum temperature under which they can survive, but also on sunshine, rainfall, the composition of the soil, wind, exposure, orientation and the transfer from a soft to a harder climate when young. If it was a matter of temperature, it would only be a matter of the climate in which the plants live in their wild state; and if we knew the maximum and minimum temperature of that particular region, we should know with some certainty if they would be successful in our gardens or not. But plant collectors will tell you that it is impossible to go by temperature alone. Let me take a concrete example from my own experience. Farrer and I collected seed in Upper Burma of plants from 4,000-13,000ft. At 4,000ft. the thermometer no more than touched freezing point, whereas at 13,000ft. snow lay for seven months in the year. Now,



"I SPY STRANGERS."

two roses, a deutzia and a philadelphus, from 4,000ft. are proving absolutely at home with even as low a temperature as 25° of frost, whereas numbers of plants that we found from 10,000-13,000ft. refuse to respond at home. This proves that the word "hardiness" cannot be confined in reference to temperature, and that it is the individual plant and not the area in which it grows wild that must be taken into consideration.—E. H. M. COX.

AN AFRICAN CHIEFTAIN.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I send you a photograph of Chief Ebaki of Apoto (the Bopoto of Stanley), near Lisada in the Upper Congo, wearing his insignia of chieftainship, the necklace of leopards' teeth. He is seventy-six years old. As a young man he went out to intercept Stanley when he was sighted coming down the River Congo from Stanleyville in 1879. He remembers speaking with Stanley and receiving presents from him. The old chief's youngest daughter is only seven years old. Though he is a Christian in every way, he still holds to polygamy and the missions will not baptise him.—R. DYKES.



A FRIEND OF STANLEY'S.

THE ROOK PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In many places rooks have increased to such an extent that their activities are harmful to agriculture. It is largely a matter of local conditions, and it would be neither wise nor equitable to attempt to legislate for rook control as a whole. The matter is better dealt with by local agreement between neighbours. Where rooks have to be reduced, it is far better that this should be done now rather than postponed in accordance with old custom until the young rooks are about to fly in May. Young rook shooting is, at the best, poor "sport," and increasingly out of keeping with modern taste, for it savours far too much of a cold-blooded slaughter of the innocents. The only point which can be urged in its favour is that it supplies the farmers with a rook pie, and so repays their expenditure of cartridges. A reduction of the rook colonies now, before nesting is advanced, is a far better method of controlling undue increase, and it is, very obviously, far more merciful. Where a few young rooks are desired for food, these can be, if necessary, shot later. Custom is slow to change, but a general acceptance of the idea of shooting rooks before they nest rather than afterwards is already making good progress, and if quietly supported by general public opinion, cannot fail to have good results.—P.

THE WATCH BIRD.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—This crested crane has spent fifteen years in a Sussex garden, where he roams at will and makes an excellent substitute for a watch dog. He is very friendly with the people he knows, but if anyone strange puts in an appearance he gives a loud "wha-hoop!" He extends his friendship to the chickens, but has to be kept out of their domain, as he eats the eggs. Formerly, a companion roamed about the garden with him, but an extra cold winter killed her, and she now stands stuffed in the hall. This beautiful creature is very fond of wandering into the house and admiring himself in a mirror or the polished brass door knobs, or looking with melancholy wonder at his motionless one-time mate. He is very intelligent, and once when he had been put in his shed for the night, and his mistress had forgotten to shut the door, she heard the tapping of his beak on the drawing-room window—he had come out to remind her. The crested crane comes from the Zambesi, and his plumage is grey and white, with very soft bristle feathers on his head, behind a black cap which looks like finest velvet.—MARGARET WYMER.

"WHAT'S THE GAME?"

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In answer to your correspondent's enquiry in your issue of February 25th, I cannot tell her the name of the game, but can describe how it can be played. We have had a set in our family ever since I can remember, with the difference that our board was not so ornate and the men were made of ivory—twenty-four white and two red. They were

stuck into the points of intersection on the board in a similar manner to the pieces on a travelling chess-board. Referring to the photograph in your issue, imagining that the board is divided up into five large squares, and calling the men with blue stands "Blue" and those with red stands "Red," the game is played as follows: The top square (which we called the fort) is left empty of men except for its bottom two corners, which are occupied by the two Red men. The remainder of the board is then occupied at all intersection points by Blue men. The object of the game is to occupy the top square by Blue to the total exclusion of Red. Blue starts the game, and his method of moving is forward or diagonally (never backward) from point to point. He may not move in a lateral direction anywhere except on the line which forms the top side of the left and right squares, i.e., in line with the Red men in their original position. Red moves, as in draughts, in any direction, taking off the board any Blue men he hops over until there are less than nine on the board, when, of course, Red wins, as Blue have not sufficient men to fill the top square. Red is bound to take a Blue man if requested to do so. There is considerable skill attached to this game, and a judicious loss of men at the right time and in the right direction often wins the game for Blue. The pictures on your correspondent's board are certainly interesting, and appear to represent some action in the Waterloo campaign, or perhaps, commemorate the whole campaign. The old-fashioned solitaire board was marked in such a fashion as to admit of this game being played on it.—A. D. WELCH, Major, R.M.

A TRAVELLED SILK-MOTH.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Several weeks ago an acquaintance received a magazine sent from India by a soldier relative. It was rolled, and both ends were sealed with paper. Upon removing the wrapper, a curious object was revealed in the shape of a dark brown, oval object, attached by a long silken stalk to a twig. This curious object was measured, and was found to be 2½ ins. long. In accordance with the instructions contained in a covering letter, the cocoon—for so the object was—was placed in a warm room and there allowed to remain. It was kept in a cardboard box from which the lid had been removed. One morning recently, upon entering the room, my informant was astonished to see a very large and extremely handsome moth slowly climbing up the wall. At first he could not account for the insect's presence. Then the explanation dawned upon him. Looking in the cardboard box, which stood on the mantelshef, he found that at one end of the cocoon was a large hole, through which the moth had emerged. The beautiful creature was identified as a specimen of the Tusseh silk-moth, the *Antheraea paphia* of entomologists. It is a splendid moth, measuring 4½ ins. from tip to tip of the expanded wings, which are of a delicate fawn colour, each wing having a conspicuous semi-transparent eye-spot.—CLIFFORD W. GREATORREX.

A FRIENDLY SCORPION.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—While I was staying at Bou Saada in the Petit Sahara some Arab boys brought in a scorpion allied to the common African species *Buthus mauritanicus*. The body was greyish, the legs and tail yellow, the claws and sting black; it was alive and very savage, lashing out freely with its tail and holding its claws half open. The animal was transferred to a glass-topped box which had been lined with crumpled paper to give it a foothold, and in these cramped quarters was eventually brought home. It lived for two and a half years in a dry aquarium, and was an interesting possession, though it could not be called a pet. In the daytime it remained hidden under a strip of loose bark; at night it crawled about with its claws held extended before it, apparently using them both as tactile organs and for seizing possible prey. This scorpion fed on mealworms, which it chewed with its chelicerae crab fashion, and was a slow eater, taking an hour or more over a meal. It never ate in daylight, thus recalling the scorpions kept in the New York Zoological Park, which would not feed unless provided with cover of some sort. When on the move it held its tail curved over its back, and could dart its sting forward or backward with equal ease. Each winter it retired under its bark for an annual fast, remaining from October to April without food.—GRAHAM RENSHAW.

DEWPONDS IN SUSSEX.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—You have, I know, previously published pictures of dewponds. Nevertheless, I venture



"I MUST GO SEEK SOME DEW-DROPS HERE."

to send you another, as it seems to me rather an attractive one. It shows sheep round a dewpond on the Sussex Downs.—K. G. WHIGHAM.

A SANCTUARY FOR MICE?

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Why is it that mice choose to inhabit bee-hives at this time of the year? The obvious answer is that a hive gives the mice all they need—shelter, food, material for a nest. But it has occurred to me that mice like hives for another reason. The other morning, when taking the roof from a hive to see if the bees wanted more candy, I discovered a mouse there. Paper had been nibbled into little bits, evidently for a nest. I replaced the roof quietly and fetched one of the cats—an excellent mouser. When I got near the hive the cat, to my surprise, struggled to get out of my arms. I tried to open the hive with one hand and hold the cat under the other arm, but she got away. After a time I picked her up again, and a friend came with me to open the hive. While he was doing this the cat again struggled to get away, but by coaxing and stroking I managed to quieten her and hold her close to the hive. Immediately the roof of the hive was lifted she darted on to the quilts, picked up the mouse, and sprang out again. She did not attempt to eat the mouse until she had got about fifteen yards away from the hive. I thought that, having tasted blood, the cat would be willing enough to taste a little more, but I could not induce her to come near the hive, and the second mouse got away. Is it possible that cats know that bees live in hives and that

bees can sting? And is it possible that mice take up their residence in hives because they know that they are then safe from the onslaughts of cats? It certainly seems so. Not far from my hives there are outhouses in which the mice could have lived comfortably and have obtained all the food they wanted. The reason I have suggested seems to explain the preference of the mice for less comfortable quarters out of doors.—W. P.

"HALF-TIMBERED TOWERS."

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—Having seen in a recent number of COUNTRY LIFE an illustration of a church with a timber tower, I thought that this photograph of the church at Upleadon in Gloucestershire might interest your readers. I took it last summer when making a survey of ancient bridges of England for the S.P.A.B.—E. JERVOISE.

WHERE TO LIVE.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—My wife and I are close upon sixty years of age, and we have lived all our lives



UPLEADON CHURCH.

suffer from rheumatism and neuritis. And, contrary to common belief, the low-lying lands in the Thames Valley, which are composed of pre-glacial sands and gravels, are the best for those who suffer from rheumatism to live upon. Kent and Essex are rather to be avoided on that account, but Surrey and parts of Middlesex are better. Barnes, Mortlake, Kew Gardens and the low-lying land stretching away towards Esher on the one hand and towards Ascot on the other are good. The down lands to the west of London are better than the clay hills immediately surrounding it to live upon. These are merely general directions. But anyone in the process of selection should avoid the clay, and the only way to keep on the safe side is to visit the spot and make enquiries as to the nature of the soil rather than the height above sea-level.—ED.]

IN THE WEST COUNTRY.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I send you a photograph of a Somerset cottage which I hope you may like. Somerset cottages are strikingly unlike those to be found in the neighbouring county of Devon. Their characteristic feature is the position of the main chimney stack, which rises on the front of the building, usually at the side of the entrance door. These "outside" chimneys are so constructed that they can be, and many of them are, provided with inle nicks containing small windows, so that in winter their occupants are able in the warmth of a cosy fire to see out of doors. Numerous examples of these chimneys are found in and about Minehead, Porlock, Selworthy, and other villages in north Somerset. Their distinctive type of architecture is somewhat severe, and gives the building a rather unnatural appearance, especially where the chimney stack is out of proportion to the size of the cottage, which seems to be the case more often than not. Even when buried in a wreath of vegetation, these West Country villages can never hide their wonderful chimneys.—E. STANILAND PUGH.



A SOMERSET COTTAGE.

on a very bracing and exposed part of the Yorkshire side of the Penine Range on cold clay soil 700ft. above sea-level. My wife has suffered from rheumatism and neuritis for thirty years. We are desirous of finding a place to live where the climate and soil will be most suitable to anyone suffering from the above complaints. We should like to be within easy reach of London. Could you or your readers suggest to what county, town or district we should go? We should much appreciate any suggestions you may be able to offer.—G. M.

[A geological map of the neighbourhood of London would be useful to our correspondent. We have asked the opinion of a well known medical authority, whose reply is as follows: "The elevated land in the Metropolitan area is all clay, but there are small areas of sand and gravel of very little depth even on the tops of those hills. Clay soil, however, should be avoided by people who

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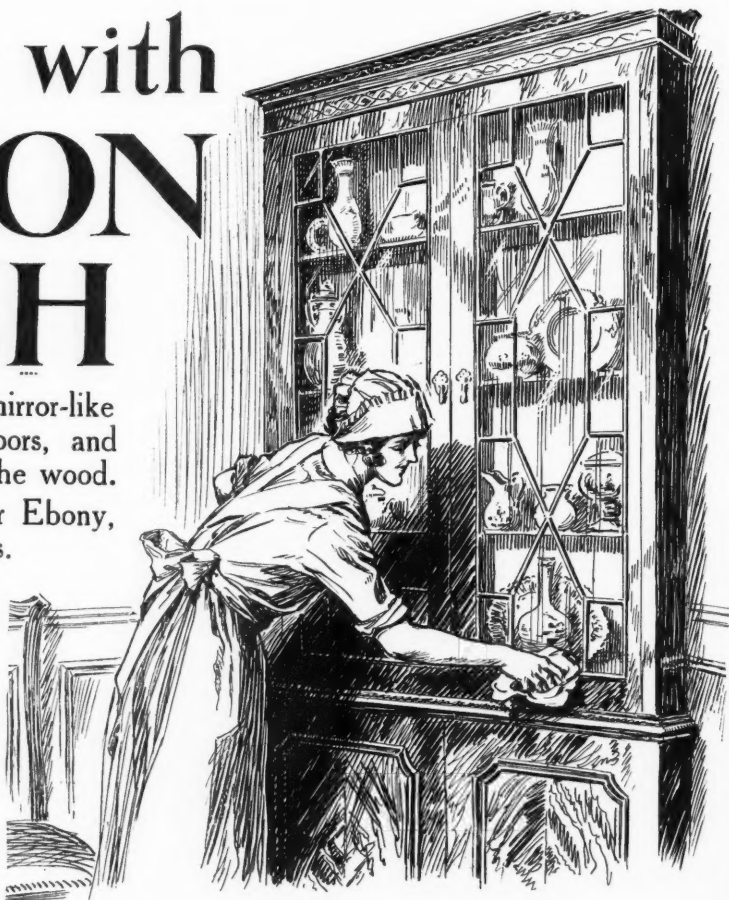
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THE GRAND NATIONAL AND FIRST FENCE CASUALTIES

BIG FIELD DANGERS AND RISKS.

I OFFER no apology for returning to the subject of the Grand National Steeplechase. As we approach the week of the race it increases in interest in a manner far beyond anything I have known in recent years. Horse after horse is consolidating claims for most serious consideration, and with it all we are wondering how many dozens there will be to come under the starter's orders.

We have seen certain horses proving their honest credentials to bid for the great prize. Amberwave at Gatwick was an instance. Bovril III at Birmingham and Trump Card at Manchester were two others, while still another was Easter Hero at Kempton Park last week-end. If they formed part of a gathering of only thirty or forty, as has been the case in some recent years, then all would be well. But one is positively dismayed at the prospect of what may be in store.

AN ENTRY OF ONE HUNDRED AND TWELVE.

The truth is, the magnitude of the prize is the main cause of the enormously dangerous entry. The Liverpool executive had in mind the laudable object of making the big steeplechase the biggest thing of its kind in the world. It has always been that from a sporting point of view, but they chose to invest it with a huge sum in the form of added money so that, with the sweepstakes, the total value reached a sum of over eight thousand pounds. As it was open to all comers, naturally every owner with any sort of a horse in his possession was ready to accept the very long odds as represented by the value of the prize in proportion to the entry money. Hence the entry this year of 112.

We may fancy this horse or that, but, as I judge the situation, the danger to one's fancy is not going to be the other fellow so much as the immense risk of interference from the great size of the field. It is ridiculous to contend that over fifty runners will permit of a sporting contest without unfair chances entering into the race. In the first place, there cannot possibly be a fair start for all. They cannot all be squeezed into a single line abreast. If the starter should aim at doing so there must be an overlapping length which can only start from "round the corner."

He may order two lines to form up, which would be unfair on all in the second line. No jockey keen on his mount would willingly go into the second line by which his chance of getting a clear run at the first fence would be jeopardised. Certainly his owner and trainer, who have been looking forward to the race for so long, would hate to see him there. Presumably there would have to be a draw for places, and when that was known one can imagine the scheming to get the better of the second line. What a job the starter, Mr. L. L. Firth, is in for.

I have just mentioned that rush for the first fence. It is a rush in the completest sense. It is even going to be a stampede this year, so that instead of horses being given a fair chance of getting on their legs and gaining a clear sight of the fence, they must be dashed at the fence at breakneck pace in order to avoid the risk of being submerged in a general *mêlée*. They must take a big chance of the consequences of going too fast at the fence in order to avoid risk of grave interference from fallen, baulked and "blinded" horses.

It has been the custom of jockeys in recent years to race for the first fence in any steeplechase. They have done it at the start of Grand Nationals. They do it at the start of novice steeplechases anywhere. They have only one method. It is "hell-for-leather" from the start. It is extraordinary how that first fence at Liverpool has brought grief to some of the best of jumpers as well as to the "sticky" ones. I have seen previous Grand National winners fall at it when such a thing was absolutely the last thing expected of them.

Poethlyn was a notable case in point. In 1918 this good horse, owned by Mrs. Hugh Peel, won the War National at Gatwick. The following year, happily, we were back at Aintree, and Poethlyn with 12st. 7lb. on his back—the maximum weight—was the winner, ridden by that very fine horseman and jockey, Ernest Piggott. The following year (1920) he was once more a great public favourite. He may never have been better in his life, and those knowing the horse confidently waited to see him come over the last fence in command and establish what I fancy would have been a very wonderful record. But there he was—down at the first fence! It was an unbelievable sight. He had paid the penalty, not as the result of interference but of taking his first fence too casually.

Still another Grand National winner I saw come down there, and this one, too, in the year immediately following his triumph. I am referring now to Shaun Spadah. He was a great jumper, as his old jockey, Fred Rees, will tell you, but he will also tell you what I have noticed time and time again, that the best of jumpers will now and again take a chance. Perhaps that is why they are brilliant and attain distinction. If they were just careful plodders and jumpers—the sort that the dealer tells you "don't know how to fall!"—they would never win the big things in steeplechasing. So it was that

Shaun Spadah tipped the top of the first fence just a little too much, and the result was something very like a somersault.

Lord Woolavington had most worthy ambitions to win a Grand National, and, as is his way, he made a bold bid by not stinting an outlay on some horses. Some did not prove to be bargains, but it was certainly thought that in Southampton, who cost him a lot of money when purchased in Ireland, there was a potential winner at Aintree. He was to have been ridden by a little-known jockey named Kelly connected with Robert Gore's stable. He was a good sound rider, but was not one of the front rankers. A day or two before the race Mr. Harry Brown, best of all amateurs during the last fifteen or more years, became available. If I remember rightly, his own horse, The Bore, had cracked up for good and could not run.

Now, I am perfectly sure Mr. Brown greatly fancied Southampton. He had seen him show some sparkling form elsewhere, and though the horse had no experience of Grand Nationals, he did not see why the horse should not win one. Therefore, being most anxious to ride a Grand National winner, he gratefully accepted the mount when it was offered to him. I do not know what the superseded jockey's feelings were, but I have no doubt they would be nicely smoothed out by all concerned with the fact of asking him to make way for the amateur.

The reader knows what I am going to say. Of course, Southampton fell—at that first fence! Thousands of onlookers interested in him would be following his progress, and they were responsible for that half-groan, half-sigh, which took the form of a dejected "Oh!" I have not the slightest doubt that the most disappointed of all was Mr. Brown, who to this day has been unable to fulfil his life's ambition.

It is because of that first fence, just because it is the first fence, possessed of added terrors now by reason of the probable enormous field, that I feel the real danger lies at the outset to such horses of proved sound credentials as Amberwave, Bovril III, Bright's Boy, Carfax, Easter Hero, Master Billie, Sprig and Trump Card. Of the performances of Amberwave, Bovril III and Master Billie I have written something in recent issues. It may not be without interest if I offer a few observations now in regard to the others.

Take first Trump Card, who greatly interested me on that day at Liverpool last November when he won the Grand Sefton Steeplechase. I thought then, because of his fine physique and his "cut" of a National horse, for the reason, too, that he gave a polished display of jumping over the difficult course, that he might one day win a Grand National. We had seen nothing of him for a long time until the other day he was brought to Manchester to make a most auspicious reappearance. For he won the Grand Allies Steeplechase by three lengths, under the big weight of 12st. 6lb., jumping throughout faultlessly, though at some time during the race he twisted a plate, which is anything but a helpful happening at any time. We were thus given the assurance that this horse remains a very live proposition for the affair on the 30th of this month.

EASTER HERO AT KEMPTON PARK.

But the big thing of the week was the Coventry Handicap Steeplechase at Kempton Park last Saturday. It was concerned with those other horses—Easter Hero, who won it under the big burden of 12st. 8lb. after making the whole of the running; Bright's Boy, who ran extremely well, though unplaced; and Carfax, whose failure I have no doubt would much disappoint the many who had hailed him as the winner of the Grand National this year.

To those mentioned above I should, perhaps, add the name of Spear o' War, though there is no certainty at the moment that he will compete at Liverpool. His owner, Lord Queenborough, may consider that this very nice seven year old is scarcely matured enough as yet. However, he was only beaten a neck by Easter Hero, but the point is that he was receiving as much as 30lb., so that if Spear o' War is as good as we think he is, then what are we to think of the brilliant performance of the one that beat him?

Then at the finish he refused to be caught in the run in by Spear o' War, and actually won comparatively easily by a neck. I confess his revelation of stamina surprised me. He had seemed so brilliant over shorter distances that I could not conceive of his having the stamina to get a National distance. But I should be sorry to say that he would not be capable of doing so after this latest showing. I recall with a little misgiving that when he won at Aintree last year he jumped very badly to the right at every fence, but, still, he got over them and raced between them with rare exhilaration. He has, indeed, remarkable speed and perfectly delightful action. Easter Hero, then, with last year's winner, Sprig, Bright's Boy (he did very well indeed in Easter Hero's race at Kempton Park), Master Billie, Amberwave, Trump Card and Bovril III, represent a little group that should include the winner—if they are all standing up after the first fence has been crossed.

PHILIPPOS.

THE ESTATE MARKET

A CHEERFUL TENDENCY

PLENTY of negotiations are going on for almost every type of property, and interest in the investment sections continues very healthy; but there are no sales of landed properties of the first importance to report this week. There are one or two coming realisations which will be watched with interest, because of their sweeping character, and details as to a great three days' auction at Bangor at an early date, for example, will be awaited with some eagerness. These do not, however, primarily relate to residential estates of the class with which readers of COUNTRY LIFE are chiefly concerned. Wholesale dealings in any type of real estate are, naturally, regarded as significant, and the small owner is rightly apt to conclude that the policy of the very large, perhaps corporate, property owner is worth considering in his own case. Certainly, in the matter of landed property, the great corporations led the way in the wave of selling a few years ago, and any lead that may be given by owners of urban and similar investments is sure to be followed by individual holders. The power of the market to absorb all classes of interests seems inexhaustible. There is no abatement in the readiness of buyers of every type of residential property, especially the smaller properties near London and other large centres of population.

A CANADIAN NOTABLE.

WOLFORD LODGE, near Honiton, which is to come under the hammer of Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley shortly, under instructions of Brigadier-General A. G. Kemball, stands on the site, and embodies much of the material, of the original mansion of the Simcoe family. Wolford was in early days possessed by the Genests, from whom it was purchased in the eighteenth century by Lieutenant-General Simcoe, whose father fell at Quebec in 1759, he himself becoming Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada and the founder of Toronto. The residence commands views over richly wooded country to the coast, twenty miles away. The doors from the original residence have been incorporated in the present structure. There are terraced gardens typical of Devon, pasture and woodland, altogether 144 acres.

Westerdunes, North Berwick, East Lothian, which is for sale by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, overlooks the Firth of Forth, and is situated in a noted golf district. A feature of the property is the gardens containing a Japanese garden and a model yachting or bathing pond.

Kearsney Abbey, near Dover, for sale by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, stands in timbered grounds on the Dour, a stream in places broadening out into lakes with wooded islets laid out as miniature gardens approached by rustic bridges. The gardens, parkland and orchards extend to 23 acres.

ISLANDS AT MAIDENHEAD.

GLEN ISLAND, Maidenhead, a riverside property opposite Boulter's Lock, is to be sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley in conjunction with Messrs. Jones, Son and Vernon. It comprises four islands on the Thames. The residence, screened from the public eye, commands views of a beautiful stretch of the river, and it is surrounded by charming gardens, lawns and grounds. The property is a self-contained little estate of 10 acres with boathouses, garages, lodge and long river frontages, with rights over 1½ miles of the river bed and exclusive fishing and mooring.

Instructions have been received by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley to sell Thakeham Place and Warminghurst Manor, a delightful estate of about 900 acres, sloping southward towards the Sussex Downs and Chanctonbury Ring, near Ashington, in a favourite part of Sussex, and of interest as the home of William Penn. There are farmhouses, with cottages and woodlands.

Mr. N. de Rothschild instructed Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley to sell No. 46, Park Street, Mayfair, on Thursday last at Hanover Square.

Knappe Cross, Exmouth, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, acting in association with Messrs. Connole, Riecard and Green. The house, a reproduction of Tudor architecture, stands 300ft. above the Exe.

Bagshot Manor, an ivy-clad Georgian residence, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley. It stands in old grounds, surrounded by 16 acres at Bagshot.

Little Wold, on the Surrey Hills at Upper Watlington, has been sold by Messrs. Knight, Frank and Rutley, in conjunction with Messrs. Slade and Church, with 2½ acres of gardens and grounds, since the auction.

SALES BEFORE AUCTION.

FOLLOWING a note on "A Regent's Park Residence" in the Estate Market page of COUNTRY LIFE of February 25th, the property, No. 1, Avenue Road, has been disposed of by Messrs. Folkard and Hayward some weeks before the date appointed for the auction. It is a house of notable merit, finely situated on the margin of Regent's Park.

Queenbury, a modernised Hertfordshire farmhouse at Reed, has been sold with 22 acres, by Messrs. Ralph Pay and Taylor.

Wallbury Dells is the name of a new house at Great Hallingbury, near Bishop's Stortford, for sale by Messrs. Ellis and Ellis on behalf of executors, with 190 acres, which embrace the 35 or 40 acres of an ancient earthwork, within the ambit of which, according to the particulars, stands the house.

The late Lord Deerhurst's hunting-box, Egerton Lodge, Melton Mowbray, with 32 acres, has been bought in at a final offer of £14,500, at auction, by Messrs. Shafto H. Sikes and Son. The Egerton Park Cricket Club's ground was sold for £1,600.

A HERTFORDSHIRE SEAT.

SIR FELIX CASSEL, BT., whose sale of Hollington House, near Newbury, which he bought in the autumn, was announced a week or two ago, has purchased Putteridge Bury, the seat which he has rented for some time. It is an example of Tudor reproduction, the architects being Sir Ernest George and Mr. Yeates.

Commander Cavendish's executors have instructed Messrs. George Trollope and Sons (in conjunction with Messrs. Rawlence and Squarey) to offer Swallowclift, Tisbury—a picturesque place between Shaftesbury and Salisbury, a stone manor house, which the late owner added to, in grounds of 17 acres. No. 43, Catherine Street, one of the old houses behind Buckingham Gate, has been sold by Messrs. George Trollope and Sons. It is freehold, with a James I staircase and panelling. They have also sold Sudpre, Worplesdon, a sixteenth-century house and 18 acres; and the Westminster lease of No. 17, Wilton Crescent, Belgrave Square.

Captain Waud has instructed Messrs. George Trollope and Sons to offer his Newbury property, Falcon Close, in conjunction with Messrs. Dreweatt, Watson and Barton. Falcon Close is one of the nicest medium-sized houses in the district, in beautiful grounds.

Coming sales by Messrs. Fox and Sons include Llanillo, 1,140 acres, in forty lots, in Herefordshire; Woodspring Priory, 662 acres, near Weston-super-Mare, including the Abbey (in conjunction with Messrs. J. H. Palmer and Sons); The Old Rectory, with 4½ acres, at West Coker, near Yeovil; Constables, Uppingham; and Breach Farm, 792 acres at Dummer, Basingstoke, one of the finest partridge shoots in Hampshire.

Transactions by Messrs. Barker and Neale include the sale of No. 7, Walpole Street, since the auction; and Nos. 19, Ovington Gardens; 3, Alfred Place; 12, Hill Street, Knightsbridge (with Messrs. Harrods); 12, Sloane Court (with Messrs. Deacon and Allen); 51, Cadogan Gardens; and 8, Cranley Place (with Messrs. Peter Jones).

Kentish property has been disposed of by Messrs. Berryman and Gilkes, the Wealden house, Washenden Manor, Biddenden; also Bryn-Garth, Hereford (with Messrs. Thake and Paginton); and Golards Farm, Lingfield (with Messrs. Geering and Colyer).

TACKLEY PARK: ROMAN AND NORMAN.

FEW districts are richer in authenticated antiquarian features than that in which stands Tackley Park, near Woodstock. The estate of over 500 acres on the Cherwell abuts on the main road from Oxford (nine miles off) to Banbury. Tackley Park is intimately connected with Roman and early English periods. Formerly the old manors of Hill and Base Courts, the estate is mentioned in Domesday, when the Earl of Chester was the lord of the

manor, and the residence shows traces of its existence before the Norman Conquest. Akeman Street, one of the old Roman main roads, bounds the property on the south, and there are traces of a large Roman or Ancient British settlement at the top of the park, with fortified approaches. Roman coins have been and still are found, also implements of the Stone Age, many of which have been presented to the Ashmolean Museum. Noted early English families have been connected with the property. In 1196 the De Nevilles were in possession; in 1235 it had passed to the Le Poers, and in 1386 it was in the possession of the family of Nowers. The tomb of John Nowers, who died in 1425, is in Christ Church, Oxford. During the Wars of the Roses, the property was connected with the Catesby family and a receiver was appointed by the Crown. By 1612 the property had passed into the ownership of John Harborne, whose daughter Magdalen married Henry Evett of Mallow, Worcestershire, an ancestor of the present owner. The mansion is entered by a carriage drive winding through a park of 118 acres, and is very substantially constructed of stone, with Stonesfield slated roof, with stone balustrading. The oldest portion of the house, which existed in the days of the Norman Conquest, is the present kitchen, and additions were made in the year 1621, towards the end of the seventeenth century, and in 1870.

Cottisford House, near Brackley, a square manor house of stone in gardens which contain a remarkable variety of fine trees of all kinds, and surrounded by 30 acres of land also richly wooded, has been sold by Messrs. John D. Wood and Co., who are to sell Cut Hedge, Halstead, an Essex house in a park of 70 acres, and 25 acres of woodland.

WEST COUNTRY TRANSACTIONS.

JOINTLY, Messrs. Fox and Sons and Messrs. Viner, Carew and Co. have sold further properties on the Langdon Court estate, near Plymouth, which the firms offered by auction in September. The area now disposed of includes Spirewell Farm of 147 acres, and Wembury Bay building estate of 111 acres, with which bathing and foreshore rights are included, also a stone quarry adjacent to Wembury Beach.

In the Somerset village of West Coker, three miles from Yeovil, Messrs. Fox and Sons have to sell by auction in April the freehold residential property known as the Old Rectory. The residence is of exceptional character, and a feature is the handsome oak Tudor staircase which was at one time the property of the Earl of Chatham. The property includes two cottages, and has 4½ acres of paddocks and orchard.

High Coxlease, a New Forest estate of 35 acres at Lyndhurst, and a property of 40 acres at Icklesham, near Rye, have been purchased through Messrs. Wilson and Co. from clients of Messrs. Nicholas and Messrs. Constable and Maude respectively. Coming sales by Messrs. Wilson and Co. include Hydecroft, at Lowfield Heath, 40 acres and a house dating from the Jacobean period; Bucksteep, 270 acres at Dallington, Sussex; Homewell, on the Cornish coast at Bude; The Cottage, 3 acres at Eversley, with Messrs. Harding and Harding; and, with Messrs. Giddys, the Malt House, Hurley.

Impending sales by Messrs. Hampton and Sons include (at the low "upset" price of £1,600) Elbury, Maidenhead, a freehold residence with garage and stabling and inexpensive garden; Merrymount, Upper Watlington, a compact freehold residence; Upland, Ruislip, a modern freehold residence and garage, with tennis court; and Kilkee, Ruislip, a pre-war freehold house and delightful garden and adjoining plots (in one or three lots).

Country properties sold by Messrs. Deacon and Allen include a freehold, Vincent Cottage, Bekebourne, near Canterbury, with nearly 5 acres of orchard and paddock.

Two of the Melbury Road houses, in the artists' specially favoured quarter of Kensington, Nos. 6 and 11, have been sold by Messrs. Hampton and Sons, who had to offer No. 17, Melbury Road this week. It was designed by Mr. Halsey R. Ricardo.

Farnborough Hall, the Georgian house near Banbury, is a leasehold which has just changed hands with 3,000 acres of shooting—the leasehold interest only involved—through Messrs. John D. Wood and Co. **ARBITER.**

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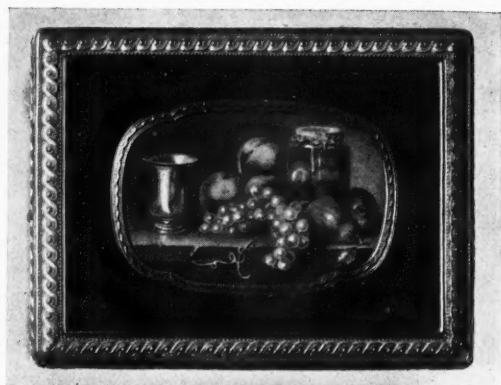
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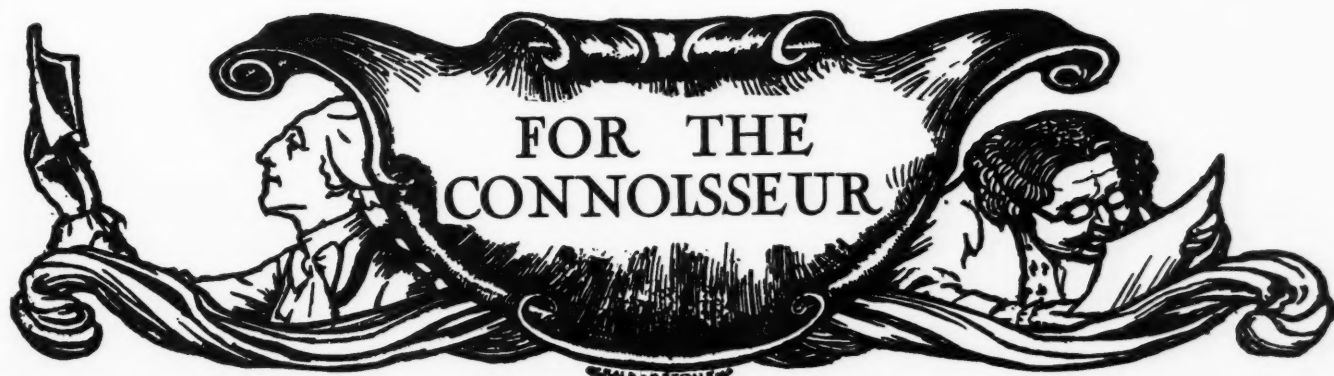


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THE ORIGINAL CARLISLE HOUSE, SOHO

AS the housebreakers of to-day seem to be creating something of the same havoc in London as played by the Great Fire of 1666, it is interesting to note one of the few remaining seventeenth century houses that are nobly withstanding this modern devastation.

Carlisle House, looking down into Soho Square from the west, though at the moment almost surrounded by housebreakers, has been made secure by its present owners, and will be maintained in its original condition—come what may of its surroundings.

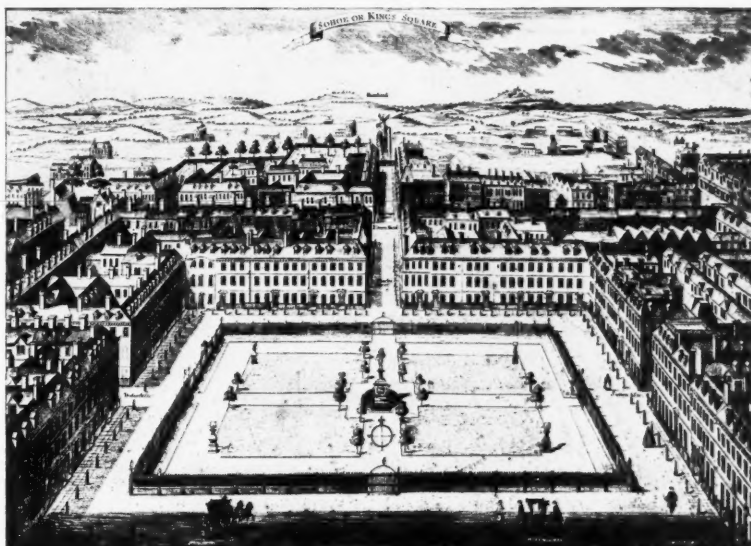
The exact date of Carlisle House is not known, but one authority states that the leadwork of the cisterns was found to be dated 1669. The house was built for Charles Howard, p.c., great-grandson of Lord William Howard, third son of the fourth Duke of Norfolk, who was created Viscount of Morpeth by Oliver Cromwell in 1658, having commanded his Life Guards and having sat in the Barebone's Parliament, and who was subsequently created Baron Dacre of Gillesland, Earl of Carlisle in 1661. Later he was Ambassador to the Czar of Muscovy, and then Governor of Jamaica, dying in 1686.

Contemporary writers of the seventeenth century speak of Carlisle House as "surrounded by large gardens, including a Cherry Orchard behind the house, and having a marble floored hall and a grand decorated staircase, with large and lofty rooms, and enriched ceilings."

In 1672 the lands of "Soe Hoe" (the name being taken from an old hunting cry) were granted by Henrietta Maria to the Earl of St. Albans. They were soon afterwards transferred, however, by King Charles II to his natural son the Duke of Monmouth. Later, in 1704, they were granted by William III to the Duke of Portland, who in the main still holds them.

It was not until 1674 that Sir Christopher Wren as Surveyor-General petitioned King Charles II to lay out Soho generally—as part of his reconstruction scheme of London. On its formation Soho Square was called "King's Square" after Gregory King, Lancaster Herald, who—as Surveyor—was intimately associated with the first buildings in the new Soho as laid out by Wren.

The project advanced gradually. The building of the square appears to have been begun in earnest in about 1680. In 1681 the rate books show only nine inhabitants, chief of them being the Duke of Monmouth, whose great house, designed by Wren in a baroque style that foreshadows Vanbrugh, stood back from the south side of the square. The duke's residence soon made the square the centre of fashion, which it remained till the developments farther west during the first half of the next century. In 1690 John Evelyn wintered "at Soho, in the Great Square," and in 1691 Shadwell makes an alderman's wife, in one of his comedies, force her husband to quit Mark Lane for Soho Square. At the battle of Sedgemoor Monmouth took the name Soho as his password. The district was not named, as has been said, after the password, for the name is found in relation to the district as early as 1632. After its owner's fall, Monmouth House was lived in by Lord Bateman till 1717, the approximate date of the district's lapse from the purely residential state. For a time Monmouth House was an auction room. It was demolished in 1773.



1.—SOHO SQUARE LOOKING NORTH. Circa 1720.
Carlisle House lies down the street to the left.



2.—CARLISLE HOUSE AS RESTORED BY MESSRS. KEEBLE.

When the square was laid out the street now called Carlisle Street took shape, and was first called King's Square Court, being then, probably, broader on the south side than it is now. Later in the eighteenth century, for obscure reasons, it was called Denmark Street, then Merry Andrew Street, before 1780, when it took its name from Carlisle House.

In 1686 Lord Charles Howard, who in 1692 became third Earl of Carlisle, built for his own use a house on the east side of the square. This later house, No. 22 in the Square, was subsequently also called Carlisle House, but at what time it is difficult to ascertain—possibly not until 1760, when Mrs. Cornelys took over the house. It was there, until 1777, that she gave her brilliant and notorious fêtes, entertaining for a fee all society of the day. This house was pulled down in 1788, and a Roman Catholic church now occupies the site of her assembly room and the Earl of Carlisle's ballroom.

The Carlisle family sold the original Carlisle House early in the eighteenth century to Lord Delaval, who, no doubt, partly redecorated it. He in turn sold it in 1770 to Angelo Tremamondo, the celebrated fencing and riding master.

Angelo, who was a great character in his day and of varied and artistic tastes, established his school at the back of the house, and also entertained lavishly. Among others who enjoyed his generous hospitality were Garrick, Sheridan, Reynolds, Zoffany, Gainsborough, Bartolozzi, Bach and Abel (his neighbours), the Duke of Cumberland, etc. Thus, if old Carlisle House is not the scene of Mrs. Cornelys's entertainments, it did see equally gay assemblies during the occupation by the "gay Delavals" and by the elder Angelo.

His son Harry, who wrote his father's *Reminiscences*, tells of many congenial evenings spent by this brilliant coterie in his father's house, conjuring up a pleasant picture of eighteenth century life. Angelo prospered considerably and retired in 1782, though his fencing school was open till 1790. Latterly he lived at Eton, where he died in 1802, aged eighty-six.

Carlisle House was subsequently lived in by Mr. Simpson, the artist-assistant of Sir Thomas Lawrence; then later by Gibbs Rogers the carver; after which it became tenements and fell into a sad state of disrepair until 1899, when Messrs. Keeble—which firm by a happy chance was also founded elsewhere shortly after the Great Fire—restored it to its present state.

Dickens depicts Carlisle House in his *Tale of Two Cities* as the home of Dr. Manette.

It is satisfying to think that this old house, which has seen so much of the life of London through nearly three centuries, is safe from the housebreakers' hands. A great deal of the eighteenth century decoration remains. For instance, both the main and the back staircase will date from the building of the house, though the plaster decoration on the walls of the former will have been put up for



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Lord Delaval. The room to the left of the entry (Fig. 3) retains its deal paneling of the same date and richly moulded plaster cornice. A large front room on the first floor (Fig. 4) has a fine ceiling of about 1730, and its original chimneypiece

of marble and scagliola. The rooms being furnished with antique furniture, the link with the past is strengthened in the mind. It is pleasantly easy to imagine the house peopled with the ghosts of its former varied *habitues*. RONALD FLEMING.

A FRENCH MARQUETRIED TABLE

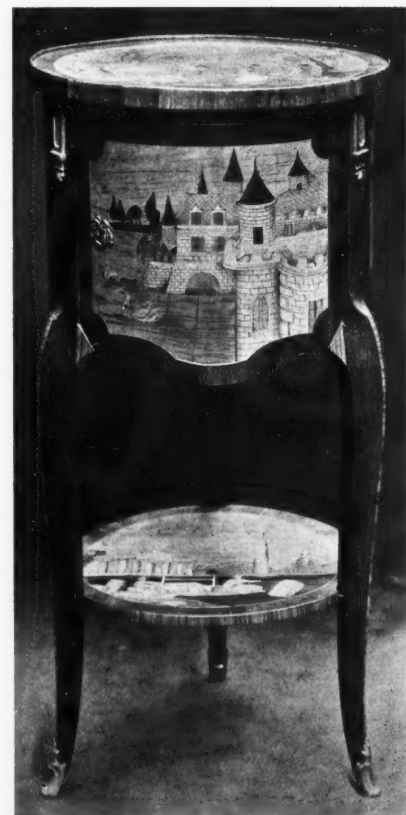
IN France of the eighteenth century the finest marquetry was carried out by famous cabinetmakers, in which the cutting is so fine and exact that there are no inequalities caused by the thickness of the saw; and much of the work was skilfully applied to curved and *bombé* surfaces. Besides graceful designs of floral trophies, certain makers made a speciality of figure subjects, carried out in woods of varying tones, and finished with engraving. The maker of the small circular table, Charles Topino, relied almost entirely upon marquetry for its decoration. The top is marquetry with a moat or river scene, with a bridge in the distance and, to the left, a battered wall; while in the foreground are two fisher-girls with basket and net. On the front, again, there is a considerable amount of architecture, the subject being a sixteenth century French chateau rising from its moat, on which two swans are swimming. The cupboard door encloses three small drawers. The maker, Charles Topino, who came to Paris in 1745, and lived in the Faubourg St. Antoine, made furniture both for the French and foreign markets, enriched with gilt metal mounts cast by Viret, chased by Chamboin and Dubuisson. He appears to have mismanaged his business, and the troubles of the Revolution broke him; he was finally declared bankrupt in 1789. His most numerous productions are small, fancifully designed tables—round, oval, square, *en corbeille* and *en jardinière*, in mahogany, lacquer or marquetry—as in the illustrated table at Messrs. Blumenthal's of King Street. In the same collection is a Louis XV secretaire, with sloping front and frame fitted with two drawers, resting on cabriole legs. The piece is veneered with kingwood, set diagonally in reserves, while the flap is veneered with a cube pattern. The piece, which is mounted with ormolu, bears the stamp of "M. Criaerd," "a member of a Flemish family of whom more than one member became *maître ébénistes*. Antoine-Mathieu Criaerd, who was born about 1724 became *maître* in 1747 and died in 1787, left some good examples of his art, such as the bedside-table of violet wood in the Musée des Arts Décoratifs at Paris. Besides French pieces of the Louis XV period there are also some caned-back walnut armchairs of the Stuart period, having the narrow caned panel of the back bordered by acanthus centring in a Royal crown, and cresting composed of two *putti* supporting a crown.

ENGLISH FURNITURE.

Among the contents of Shrivenham House, near Swindon, which are to be sold by Messrs. Foster of Pall Mall on Monday, March 12th, and the three following days, is a mahogany bureau-bookcase in two stages, with the cupboard doors of the upper stage, which are faced with shaped and bevelled mirror plates, carved with a geometrical design. There is also a set of eight mahogany chairs having square backs with splats formed of five reeded rails festooned at the top with drapery, and tapered straight legs carved on the blocking with a patera. A corner chair in the same collection has the front leg carved with a lion mask and lion-paw feet.

The good selection of furniture at Messrs. Hampton's of Pall Mall East includes, besides modern work, a number of useful pieces such as sofa-tables, sideboards, bow-fronted chests of drawers, and circular-topped library tables and bureau-bookcases. A pair of mahogany bow-fronted

chests of drawers, containing six long and two short drawers, is surmounted by the segmental pediment fashionable in the first years of the nineteenth century, and is inlaid with ebony lines. Of the same period is a convex-fronted sideboard with an arched centre, and two deep wine-drawers, each panelled to represent two drawers, and fitted with a double set of



LOUIS XV MARQUETRIED CIRCULAR TABLE, WITH CUPBOARD ENCLOSING THREE DRAWERS. Above: Top of the table.

handles. The legs, which terminate in lion-paw feet, are spirally reeded in one section and continued upwards in inlaid colonnettes. Another sideboard, somewhat earlier in date, which is break-fronted, rests upon square tapered legs.

A GOLDSMITH MANUSCRIPT.

The large sum of £5,600 was realised at the sale, by Messrs. Sotheby on February 27th, of Goldsmith's translation into verse of *Vidas' Game of Chess*. J. DE SERRE.

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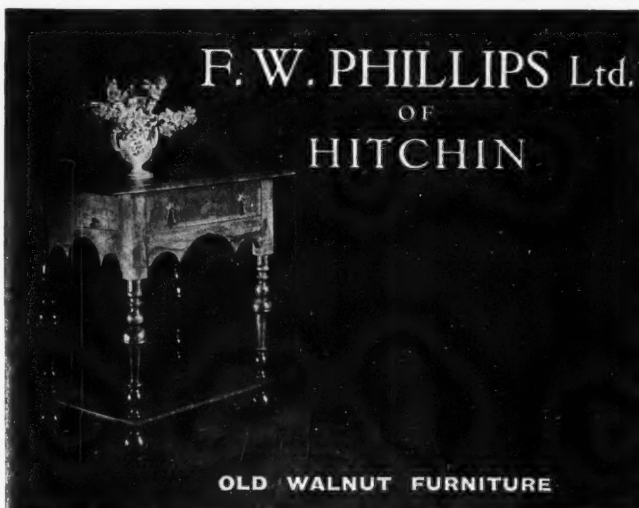
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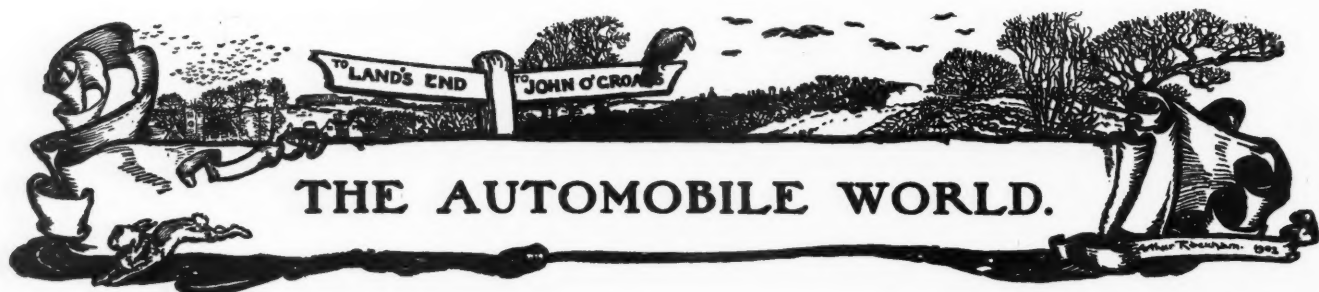
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THE MAKER'S SERVICE AND THE USER'S POCKET

IT is common experience that the heaviest single item in the motoring annual budget is depreciation, and the great majority of motorists with what may be called ordinary cars and low annual mileages find that the standing charges incidental to keeping a car constitute very much more than half the yearly bill. Any increase in the power of the car and any decrease in the annual mileage will, obviously, tend to increase this ratio, and it is not at all unthinkable that there may be cases in which the standing charges may be as much as five times the actual running costs per mile.

Standing charges for the average car owner may be interpreted as meaning tax, insurance, garage (or the heating, lighting and general maintenance of one's own garage) and, in some cases, also chauffeur's wages. Running costs and maintenance items are the costs of fuel, oil, tyres and running repairs, while there are, of course, certain possible items that seem to come on the border line, while yet again there are others which some car owners will include and others will exclude from their motoring budget.

MILEAGE AND TOTAL COSTS.

With so many items beyond his control it is obvious that the motorist cannot hope appreciably to reduce his annual budget. One can try to reduce overheads or, alternatively, try to get the greatest possible use out of the car, thus reducing

the ratio between mileage and overheads. If tax and insurance are going to involve an annual outlay of, say, £20, they will represent a much lower cost per mile on the car that has covered 20,000 miles in the year than on the car that has done a bare tenth of the distance. The more we use the car for all purposes of travel the greater the economy we effect, and we can set our saving of fares against the increase in running costs.

Depreciation is, in the main, determined not by a car's condition, nor by the mileage to its credit, but by its name and its reputation. Nevertheless, a car that has been exceptionally well looked after will find a better market than one that bears obvious signs of wear, and so there is some encouragement offered to the owner to be careful with his vehicle and to keep it in good appearance, even if he does not give it the most efficient and skilful of mechanical attention. Many a buyer in the second-hand market will lay more stress on appearance than on actual performance, and there is to be said for his apparent folly the fact that, as a rule, the car that has been well looked after externally, and remains in good external condition, has not suffered unduly from internal derangements.

REDUCING THE HEAVIEST ITEM.

This factor of depreciation seems worthy of some attention, in the hope that it may be reduced; mechanical repairs

and maintenance may also be cut. The car that is forced to run and to keep on running until it simply refuses to go a yard farther until it has received expert and probably expensive attention is the car of which the second-hand value and general performance record will be poor.

HOW THE MANUFACTURER CAN HELP.

There have long been certain car makers who maintain a small army of what are commonly called "service inspectors." These are men who travel round to owners of the car and inspect it and advise what attentions, if any, it requires to bring it back to or to maintain it in the best of fettle. In some few cases there are progressive agents and retail selling concerns who do the same thing. The owner of a car of one of the favoured makes or the customer of one of these big houses has always the assurance that his car just has been or shortly will be vetted, and that he may rely on that vetting as giving him a reliable indication of its condition such as neither he himself nor anyone else with only ordinary working knowledge of the car in question could form.

"SERVICE INSPECTIONS."

But the practice is not by any means so common as it deserves to be. Every car manufacturer of standing, and every agent desiring and deserving to be ranked



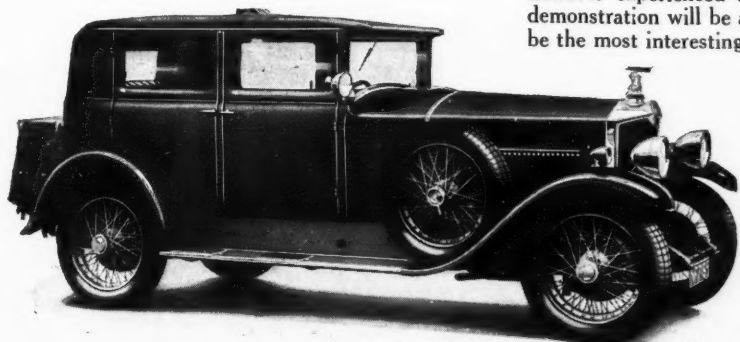
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There are many features of this Super Six which will surprise you, however experienced a motorist you may be. Details on request or a demonstration will be arranged to suit your convenience. A trial run will be the most interesting motoring experience of your life.



PRICES :

Super Six Fabric Saloon - £795
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20-9 h.p. MODELS.

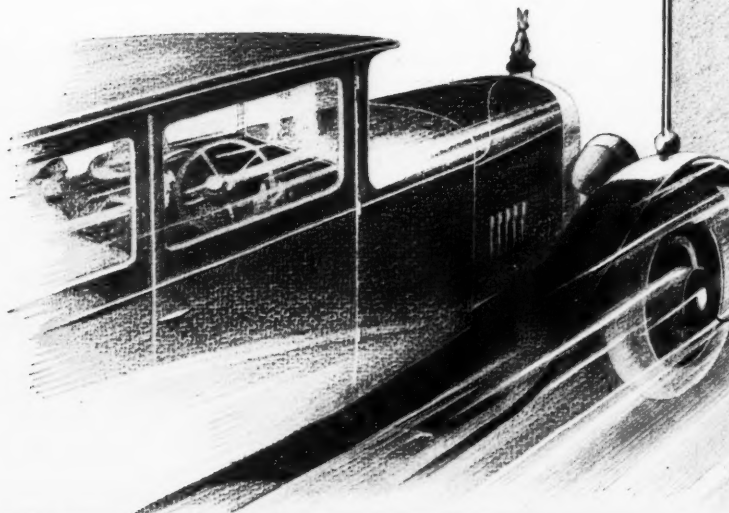
Touring Car - £675
Fabric Saloon - £720
"Aero" Saloon (coachbuilt) - £750
Saloon de Luxe (coachbuilt) - £795
Short Wheelbase Enc. Limousine - £820
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as first class, should show practical recognition of the simple fact that the satisfied customer is the best possible advertisement, and that there is no way of securing the satisfied customer more certain than displaying interest in him and his welfare long after his cheque has been cleared.

Not so long ago I, living in the south of England, wrote to Clayton Wagons of Lincoln that the Dewandre servo device for the braking on my car was not working so well as I thought it ought. Three days later a "service inspector" was examining my car in my own garage and going away after putting things right, refusing all remuneration and assuring me that his only job was to ensure that every user of a Dewandre servo "motor" was a satisfied user! Even if the Dewandre were not so good as it is, would not every user having received such treatment be convinced that whatever the quality of their products, Messrs. Clayton Wagons, Limited, of Lincoln were a firm eminently desirable for business transactions?

Let the guarantee period of a car cover, say, two or three visits by the service inspector, and when that period is ended—one visit would be the most required in the case of any reasonably well made car—let the owner who thinks such service likely to be of use to him pay the maker a fee to cover further

visits by the service inspectors over a given period.

VALUE TO MAKER, USER AND CAR.

Quite apart from the direct advertising and good-will value of such a scheme as this, it would be an enormous asset to the car maker intending to raise the second-hand value of his cars. Potential buyers would know that such a car had been receiving periodical expert attention, which might be presumed to guard it against some of the ills to which cars are heir, and that, therefore, such cars might be expected to be in better condition than others that had not received such benefits.

The user would benefit directly, in that he would have a car of which the condition, and therefore the probable useful life, would always be known, and this in itself would be the strongest possible contribution to his economy theme. His one-time idea that "I must get rid of this car soon: it has seen its best days," would be weakened so much so that it would almost cease ever to exist, and he would, to his great financial benefit change over from one of those extravagant users always changing cars and suffering heavily in depreciation every time, to one of those possibly staid but generally happy users of the same car for year after year.

X.

INSURANCE AND TAXATION

THERE are many needed reforms in the present system of our taxation, but there is one that, although universally condemned, has escaped inclusion among the one or two modifications and improvements that have been incorporated in the system since its inception. The reference is to the concession allowed for cars built not later than 1913. When the tax was introduced in 1920, it was announced that cars more than seven years old would be allowed a rebate of 25 per cent. This was, naturally, taken as meaning that in future years the rebate would be allowed to all cars more than seven years old, so that, say, a car built in 1920 would in 1928 pay 25 per cent. less tax than when it was new. When it transpired that the determining factor in this concession was not the seven years of age but the year 1913, one of the most unpleasant subterfuges of the whole scheme stood revealed. Apparently, 1913 is to be the critical date for all time, and, no matter what its age, any car built after 1913 is to be called upon for the full amount of the tax!

This is a crying injustice, and any organisation that can secure its remedying, and a reform that is many years over-due, will earn and receive much wider approval than will ever follow from the restoration of a method of taxation—the tax on fuel method—that may be sound in principle, but which, in practice, may not be to the benefit of the majority of motor owners.

Two of the biggest items in the motorist's annual budget are insurance and taxation, and the first of these has just been increased for certain classes of car, while the other *may* be altered for all. It came as no surprise to those closely in touch with motoring matters when the insurance companies recently increased the rates for small cars, for it had long been common knowledge that the insurance companies were finding the small car business unremunerative.

But the form taken by the increase in insurances is open to some discussion. The increase applies only to cars rated at less than 10 h.p., and the argument given for this localisation appears to be that it is the new motorist who most commonly starts with a small car who is responsible for the majority of claims.

The result of the innovation is that small car insurance is quite disproportionate in rate to that for cars at the other end of the scale, but this disproportion is probably quite justifiable on the grounds that the big luxury car is generally driven by a man who is anything but a novice and is, indeed, mostly a paid driver whose livelihood depends in large measure on his proficiency and carefulness at the wheel. But the chief objection to the increase, from the general aspect, apart from the views of those who have to pay it, is that owners of small cars may feel tempted to cut out insurance altogether in the cause of apparent, but false, economy. I hold most strongly the general opinion that the uninsured car ought never to be allowed on the road, and that the man who takes it out is guilty of a serious moral offence, even if, at present, he breaks no law. Some owners may be tempted to use their cars uninsured, although previously they covered their responsibilities to others in the proper way. If this effect should materialise, the insurance companies may find that their move is one to their own injury, in that it may create a large class of car user who causes damage and expense to others which cannot be made good by

him because he has no insurance company to meet his liabilities.

A possible change in the basis of taxation has been talked of every year since the present £1 per horse power tax was introduced in 1920. It has been urged, consistently and rightly, that the present tax is unfair, in that the amount paid bears no relation to the use made of the roads by the vehicle for which the tax is paid, and that a fuel tax to replace the present standing charge would automatically remove all injustice from the taxation basis.

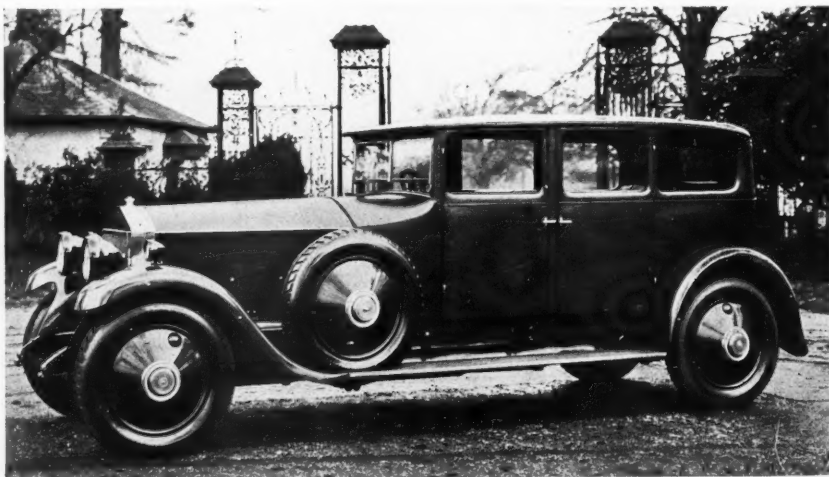
But, without challenging the justness of a fuel tax as compared with the present iniquitous system, one may, perhaps, pause to consider whether a change back to a fuel tax is now to be desired without qualification. Since the horse-power tax was introduced, and even since the Automobile Association campaign for a return to the fuel tax attained its full momentum, many changes have taken place that seem to affect the question.

The first of these changes is that moneys originally collected entirely for road purposes are no longer so limited in their application. When the motorists' money formed a genuine Road Fund from which the roads were maintained, it was right and logical that the contributions of each individual should bear some ratio to his use of the roads; but such a motive no longer exists when road expenditure exceeds the total yield of motor taxation by many millions every year.

The second change of note is the general increase in the ordinary motorist's annual mileage. Ten years ago the man who used his car for "private" as distinct from business purposes, and covered more than 2,000–3,000 miles a year was considered a hard driver; to-day the majority of car owners put up much bigger figures; while the average, as far as it can be computed, seems to be about 5,000 miles a year. When the horse-power tax was introduced it was supposed to be calculated to give about the same net yield as would have been given by a fuel tax of 6d. per gallon and an annual mileage of 7,000.

It is, therefore, at least open to discussion whether the majority of car owners would benefit financially by a fuel tax to replace the horse-power levy. The short-journey, week-end pleasure-seekers would—the owners who had their cars out at no other time; but such owners are now a small fraction of the whole, and the question needs to be tackled from the point of view of the majority.

Most important of all considerations is the amount of any tax that might be imposed on fuel. The one-time 6d. a gallon as the suggested levy may be regarded as obsolete; it is extremely doubtful if a fuel tax imposed would be less than 1s. per gallon, and in practice this would mean at least 1s. 1d., as 1d.—or even 2d.—



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might possibly be imposed by the oil companies to cover their cost of collecting the tax. With a practical doubling of the price of his fuel, it is at least very, very doubtful if the average motorist with a normal annual mileage would find himself better off than when he paid a tax of £1 for every horse-power of his engine rating. Moreover, the fuel tax

would not be his only charge were it restored. He would also have to meet a registration fee that might be anything from 10s. to £4 or £5, and, even if this registration fee were kept down to within the nominal limits that have been suggested, it seems distinctly doubtful whether he would, in the long run, be better off than with the horse-power tax only. LEX.

THE STRANGE ADVENTURES OF AN AUSTIN SEVEN

THE Austin Seven is such a tiny car that people steering heavier metal may affect not to take them very seriously. Owners of Austin Sevens take a vast delight in their pet cars, but even they would hardly expect them to stand up to the unsuspected stress of flood and stream we endured in the autumn bad weather. This article may re-assure many Austin owners, and reveal to them, as it did to me, what such a baby car can accomplish.

I had been up in Scotland and was returning south through the Lake District. On November 3rd I left the lakes, intending to do the 185 miles to mid Wales, but was obliged to make a forced landing in Lancaster that night, only getting there at all with great difficulty. Leaving Keswick at 9 a.m. in torrential rain, I found the lakes in flood in places; rivers had risen, and mountain torrents also dashed over the road. When I got to one village the floods were so deep that two cars had stuck; but, though warned that the little car could not do it, on hearing it was the last one I attempted it, and she went through without hesitation, onlookers calling out "Well done the Baby Austin!" and "Three cheers for the little one!"

I hoped my troubles were over, but they were only beginning. Getting to Kendal, I found the Lune had risen to such an extent that most of the town was under water except in the higher parts. It was exactly twenty-nine years since the river had been so high. To make matters worse, a nearby dam had burst, and the roads to the north and to the south were completely cut off. We were told two local bridges had given, and there was anxiety for one in the town.

Quite unconscious of all this, I was driving through the town when I was suddenly stopped by a constable, who told me I could go no farther, as the road was under water. I replied, "I must go on, I have to get to Wales to-day." He smiled pityingly at me and said, "Madam, your best plan will be to take a room at once at the hotel; you will be lucky if you get away to-morrow, the flood is 6ft. deep." I was told somewhere else it was 11ft. deep, but cannot vouch for this.

I reserved a room, and then went with others from the hotel to see the sights. We saw a large 'bus taking people from one end of the street to the other stick in the middle and have to remain there. Then a boat was used. I saw something red on the top of the water—this was the top of a letter-box! The caravans and fair were like islands in a lake, which I imagined to be a field. It would take far too long to describe all the scenes one saw.

At my hotel two ladies and a gentleman arrived and were proceeding home by train, having had to leave their car stranded in the flood at Stavorley—they had seen my little Austin sail through in the morning.

The flood went down with such extraordinary rapidity—16ins. in 1½ hours—and the rain had ceased by 11 a.m., that by 3.30 p.m. three ladies, travelling in a large Wolseley car, and I decided to push on as far as Lancaster that evening:

going *via* Kirkby Lonsdale—the ordinary route was impossible. After much consultation we started, the Wolseley leading and I following. We soon came to several small floods; at one an A.A. man was directing any traffic and warning people to go slowly. After a time we came across no more traffic. We began to wish we had never started, and felt between the devil and the deep sea. We did not relish going back again, and each flood we hoped would be the last one as we successfully forded it. They seemed to get deeper, and we had visions of being stuck all night, with no possibility of moving. The farms near were all surrounded by water. One of the ladies waded into each flood to test the surface of the road; only in one place were we actually in danger of drowning—that was where a rushing stream tore through the flood across the road, into a flooded field, and the stone wall had been washed away there. Even the large, heavy car swerved, and it was an anxious moment. The only hope was to go very slowly in lowest gear, but to get through that stream one had to accelerate considerably and pull the wheel sharply round. The water was coming in at my door and up through my floor. At last we came near a village and cross roads and, to our joy, saw a 'bus and presently other cars. In our last flood, which looked worse than it really was, the 'bus driver promised, if the little Austin stuck, to get a rope and pull her out. This was unnecessary, but it was a great moral support. It took just three hours to do the twenty miles or so to Lancaster. We arrived at 6.30, to find the hotel full of marooned motorists, for the Garstang-Preston floods were also out. Some motorists tried to get to Kendal, and had to return. It was hard to make them believe we had come through, until we explained we had come by by-roads, the Leven's Bridge route being impossible for a car or a 'bus of any size.

The little Austin was treated as a heroine, and everyone wished to examine her to see how she could possibly have avoided getting water into her carburettor or magneto. She proved so very well protected. She was none the worse for her adventures, and next morning, to my great relief, started up with the first turn of the handle! The Garstang-Preston floods went down in the night, and it was a fine morning, so I had a splendid run to Chester. After lunching there the weather changed and I ran into awful weather in Wales, coming in for a regular cloud-burst near Oswestry which considerably delayed me—I was two and a half hours later than I expected in reaching my destination, and what might have been the worst adventure of all occurred, fortunately near a wayside station, when, owing to the state of the roads, after crossing the line the car skidded badly and turned over on her side, luckily on a hedge and not a stone wall, or she must have been smashed up entirely. I struggled out of the off door over a large hat-box, which somewhat impeded my speed. Already some men who had seen it happen were on the spot, and they lifted the little car bodily on to the road. All the side windows were

smashed, which gave them rather the appearance of hoops at a circus; the door was wrenched and several gadgets lost, and part of the bonnet, etc., broken; but, to my intense relief and surprise, the engine was uninjured and the lights as good as ever, for it was getting dusk, and eighteen miles still to go.

When I arrived at my destination, several miles the other side of Newtown, up in the hills, I was thankful it was dark, for I have never seen such a disreputable-looking little object.

After three days' rest in Wales, I had an excellent and very lovely run to Cheltenham *via* Ledbury and Tewkesbury; after that, no more adventures, except that I had the bad luck to run into a very thick fog from Gloucester to Bristol, and, indeed, considerable fog at times as far as Bridgwater.

Before finishing I should like to say one word about the tyres. In spite of their having done 8,000 miles, I had only two punctures—in both cases nails—and on both occasions I had the luck to arrive, and they were discovered next morning by the chauffeur where I was staying; so I never had to change a wheel on the road. E. H. J.

BRITISH CARS OVERSEAS.

QUITE recently we referred to the general question of the suitability of British cars for overseas conditions, and made mention of the commonly held fallacy that for "slogging" work, in contrast to the fairly easy going of good roads, only the low speed low efficiency type of engine was suitable. It is a fallacy that has long been held, and from which the British motor manufacturer has suffered considerably, but there always have been some overseas motorists who have appreciated the fact that the higher efficiency engine is, as a matter of fact, just as durable and just as suitable for really hard work as is any other type.

Not only does this type of engine score by its greater liveliness and the added zest it offers to a driver who knows how to get the best from it, but it is, of course, enormously more economical in fuel than is its chief rival. And it generally follows, though it may be admitted that this is not always a necessary corollary, that the car having the high efficiency engine is a more durable and more economical possession than its competitor.

More graphic confirmation of these arguments could not be had than is contained in a letter we have just received from a correspondent in New Zealand, who speaks enthusiastically of the record of his 1914 Sunbeam. After some general remarks, this correspondent concludes: "I should like to say how very much your motor section interests people who are interested in British cars at this distance from home. This country is, of course, swamped by American cars, but as a matter of principle, and also on the score of economy in running (referring, of course, to modern cars), I would not have a Yankee at any price. America has a high tariff against our goods and, in fact, takes very little of our products from us, and the American engine costs quite 80 per cent. more to run; and how many American cars of 1914 manufacture would be in the condition of my Sunbeam now? If any, precious few."

R. M. STOKES.

Transmission Efficiency.—Students of motor car design will probably have noted that Captain Campbell's and Mr. Lockhart's super racing cars were fitted with a transmission system in which the gear box and back axle form one unit. The extreme simplicity and efficiency of this design is so obvious that it seems curious that, with the exception of Armstrong Siddeley and one or two other makes, it is not found more often on touring cars.

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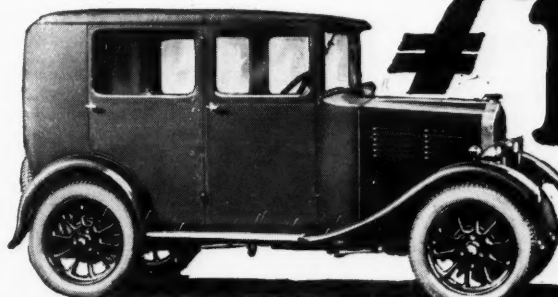


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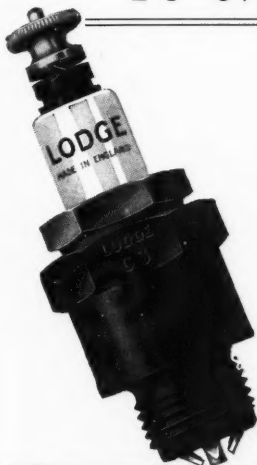
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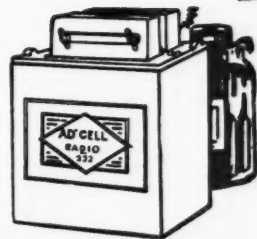
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CHEAP GUNS

THE price of a double-barrelled twelve-bore gun may run from 120 guineas down to a £5 note, and round this figure one can get a serviceable English-made hammer gun. The foreign, Continental-made, gun is a joke—often a dangerous joke—but every year hundreds of them are sold in this country. They pass through the hands of the country ironmonger to the purchaser, who has to consider not guineas but shillings when he meets the necessary capital outlay for his double-barrelled gun. They find a market with the incautious small-holder, the smaller poultry farmer and people who do not know any better. They may look nice—indeed, the finish is unexceptionable—but they are a very different proposition in use.

I have, at various times, acquired specimens second-hand, for when adding to my collection of antique firearms it often happens that I have to buy at an auction a "mixed lot" in order to get one particular piece. It was in this way that I acquired in one mixed lot for 12s. a perfectly sound brass-cornered, oak-framed, leather-covered flat case for a pair of guns, and a gun catalogued as "an old gun" which turned out to be a fairly modern triple-bolted Belgian twelve-bore by one of their leading manufacturers. I hesitated before I took the gun along, for it was superficially both greasy and rusty, and seemed to have seen better days. The leather case was, I concluded, worth all that I had paid; but in the end I decided that the gun might be worth cleaning.

Paraffin worked wonders, a scratch brush soon removed most of the fouling, and I had a pair of superficially clean barrels, not very bright inside, but at least free from any trace of pitting. An hour's work all over the gun with paraffin, scratch brush and various scrapers produced a gun in what the Army would term "good part-worn appearance." It then became clear that, though it might have been neglected, it had not had much wear.

With the wooden fore-end on there was little obvious shake, but more critical scrutiny discovered a weakness—a lateral wobble of the barrels. With the fore-end off it was decidedly rickety. It would be interesting, I thought, to compare this weapon with other guns of similar standard and different nationality. My junk pile boasted a rather heavily decorated German shot-gun, a French gun of ingenious complexity, and an old Birmingham-made keeper's gun. The latter cost in its prime probably six or seven pounds, the others a pound more or less. The conclusions were interesting. The Frenchman had barrels which would, at best, have the efficiency of good gas-piping, for even a cleaning-rod mop felt tight and loose at odd intervals passing up the bore. The German was better made, but clumsy, and felt soft. Its noises were dull, its locks varied in pull, and anywhere one would not be likely to notice it, work was scamped. The Belgian had the best appearance, but it was soft, rickety and dependent on solder, yet its parts were fairly neatly finished and its outward appearance good. The Birmingham gun was no graceful beauty, but it still opened and shut with a clean click, and was free from shake. The detail of fitting of such pieces as trigger-guard and hammer was coarse and abominable; scrolls of meaningless tool-scraping drew attention to, rather than concealed, a general roughness of finish in non-essentials. There was no spit and polish—but it was a far better gun. It was on the heavy side, and the tubes were brazed, not soldered. Stripped, one found no waste refinements inside. Little work had been put in on reducing forgings to graceful pieces; but it was a vigorous, rough, durable machine—and this is just what the foreign-made guns were not.

They were prettier to look at—outside—but they had no life, no robust quality of metal. They were an assemblage of soft machine-made parts; the English gun was, in far higher degree, built of fairly rough hand-made—or, at least, hand-fitted—parts, and was, above all, of far better material.

In terms of life there was no comparison, for it was obvious that the English gun would last, with care, almost indefinitely, and in a neglectful farmer's hands for half a lifetime. It could, if anything went wrong, be mended by a country smith. Its locks were rough, but perfectly sound, and 90 per cent. of the money spent on its construction had been usefully spent on making a coarse but efficient and durable gun. It was still value for money, while the foreigners were worthless.

The problem of tightening up the Belgian so that I might test the relative patterns of these three guns was easily met by my gunsmith. He simply took a hammer and beat up the lump below the barrel until "shake" vanished. The softness of the metal was astonishing—a tap or two and it was all right. It was now, he assured me, quite safe to fire. I agree that it is, but, somehow or other, all inclination to fire it has left me.

The whole world knows and admits that there is nothing so good as the finest English guns; but, to some extent, the foreigner has beaten us in many of the foreign "trade" markets, for the first cost of our guns of this class is still rather higher than that of Continental makers. It is a pity that the sterling qualities of reliability and the durability of this class of English gun are not more widely recognised—particularly in our own country.

H. B. C. P.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE ENGLISH TWENTY CLUB.

THE English Twenty Club has now launched its scheme for bringing the members of schools shooting for the Ashburton Shield, the COUNTRY LIFE Cup and associated events into closer contact with the rifle-shooting world at Bisley. The new scheme provides that any school may become an associate member of the club for a fee of 2 guineas. It will then receive a bronze jewel for competition, and enjoy the run of the Bisley Club House for the duration of the meeting.

The real essence of this scheme is that it means that young and promising shots will not be so likely to drop out of contact with rifle shooting when they leave school, but will be recruited to the ranks of regular riflemen. In addition, they will be put into touch with the members of the English team and will have the best of opportunities to obtain the best possible amateur coaching and help.

Another very important factor is that the county representatives of the English Twenty Club will be brought more into touch with Public Schools in their own area and will, probably, be able to help both teams and individuals to secure extra facilities, such as extended full range practice or similar conveniences.

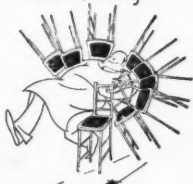
O.T.C. officers who are new to the Bisley environment will find the English Twenty Club scheme a blessing, for it will be possible to find an old hand to act as guide, counsellor and friend, and simplify some of the difficulties of finding one's way about. It is to be hoped that schools will take full advantage of the club's offer and that later on we shall be able to see a Junior International match.

The boy who leaves school after having been in his school team will, having once been in touch with the Twenty, be in personal contact with Bisley people, and it is suggested that veterans would be prepared to make themselves responsible for launching and coaching a tyro during his first season.

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THE GARDEN

THE GARDENS AT OLYMPIA

LOOKING around the gardens at the Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia, one cannot but feel that in few branches of artistic achievement have there been such great advances made during the last few years as in the designing and planting of gardens, and more particularly of the smaller type of garden, as, for example, those suited to town conditions. At the same time, it seems only too evident, to judge from these show gardens, that we have not yet reached that ideal of simplicity of form and treatment in the gardening art which has characterised the revolutionary swing of the pendulum from the stiff formality of Victorian gardens to the simpler and easier grace of our modern garden. The flamboyant line and ostentatious decoration are still there, but I suppose with a definite purpose in view—that of attracting attention to the exhibit. If there is one criticism that can be levelled against the gardens, it is that they are more spectacular than practical. True, there are one or two exceptions that only go to prove the rule that simplicity in treatment is far to be preferred to a riotous display. Comparison between the gardens at Olympia and the model gardens at Chelsea is impossible, because conditions are so essentially different, and it is useless to pretend that would-be gardening enthusiasts in search of ideas find these gardens as helpful as those at Chelsea: yet, when the unnecessary striving for glamour and effect has been discounted, there are many features at the Olympia gardens that should prove of the greatest assistance to all garden owners. The exhibitors certainly deserve every credit for the manner in which the gardens have been laid out. The exigencies of space, a concrete floor and artificial lighting impose heavy restrictions and limitations on what may be accomplished, and, consequently, in the appearance of the finished product. Many of the gardens are good, but only one or two exhibitors show a tendency to break away from the usual stereotyped designs that one has come to associate with the Annexe at Olympia. It is regrettable that more have not done so, for visitors can carry in their mind's eye the exhibits of last year. A little foresight and imagination should result in something better than a mere repetition of previous exhibits. Why cannot some garden designer produce on the concrete floor at Olympia a replica of the garden of the future? It need not necessarily include all the latest plant introductions, but it might put forward a plea for a new style in planning and

planting. Even if the ideas were not accepted, such an exhibit would cause comment and might pave the way for future possibilities in garden design.

It is undeniable that it is much more difficult to plan a small garden successfully than it is a large one, and it is particularly noteworthy that the majority of the exhibitors have been so successful in the actual design. They have shown ingenuity in the treatment of the space at their disposal, and the small garden owner may glean many useful ideas therefrom. One or two of the gardens show a pleasant vista which could be seen from the house windows—an all-important feature in garden design; while others show the value of well placed groups of trees or rock, or, perhaps, the placing of ornaments or a garden house in relation to other parts of the garden. Discretion is very necessary in the arrangement and placing of furniture and ornaments in the garden. They must be subordinated to the garden itself and yet fit into the general scheme, so that they lend beauty and are an asset to the garden. In the rock gardens, too, care has been exercised in the shaping of the paths. There are not many flagrant incongruities, such as winding paths on a perfectly open surface, and while in a few instances more use could have been made of the paths to create a better effect, yet, on the whole, the restraint to meet the natural garden conditions as far as possible is admirable. It is unfortunate that the same cannot be said for the planting. It is here, I think, where the spectacular has been overdone in an attempt to please the eye. Of course, such is excusable at an exhibition which is not a purely horticultural one and which is not held at a time of year when there is a wealth of outdoor flowering plants to draw upon. Yet, on the other hand, exhibitors should not attempt to turn their garden into a window display and cram as many plants into it as possible. It should be borne in mind to whom the exhibits are appealing. Plants should always

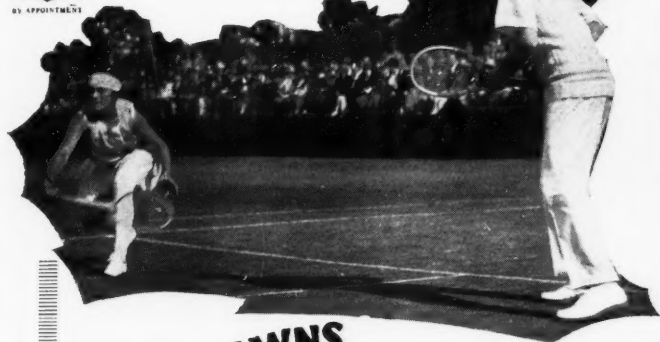
be grouped under as natural conditions as opportunity will allow, and no matter how beautiful the arrangement may appear, if there are incongruities in the grouping and planting, such violations will detract from the display. The knowing amateur is not likely to be led astray, as he places no reliance in groupings in which any one plant is out of place or which are overcrowded. It is the novice in practical gardening who is usually deceived by impossible arrangements, and who will be rudely disillusioned in



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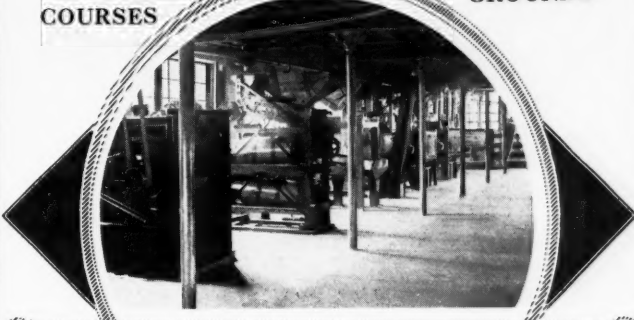
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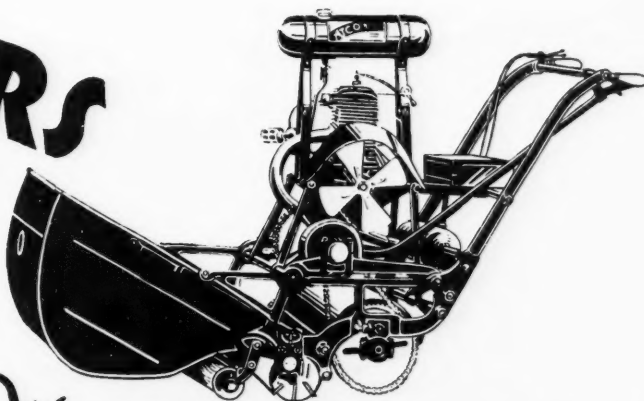
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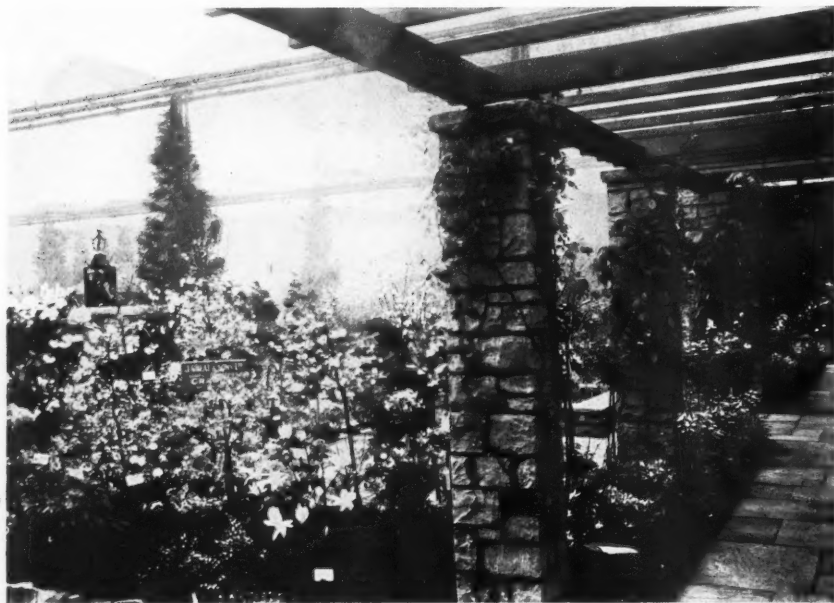
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attempting the same thing in his own garden. Exhibits of gardens should show design, and, in addition, skill in planting and grouping, which are the finishing effects so necessary in a true garden.

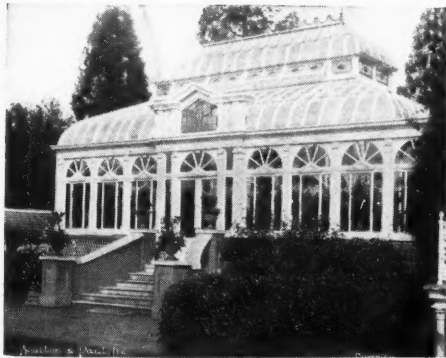
I am by no means certain that Messrs. Baker's garden is not one of the most helpful contributions to the show. It illustrates a simple but practical method of treating a small space with a square enclosure surrounded by a low terrace wall on which a number of alpine plants are flourishing. A grass lawn, in the centre of which is a small lily pool fed by a stream on a stony bed, is planted up with daffodils and natural-looking clumps of the dainty *Primula Wanda*, an association that is particularly pleasing to the eye. The raised beds on the terrace are planted with a wealth of flowering shrubs, including lilacs, magnolias, rhododendrons and azaleas, while one or two pleasant groups of *Daphne Mezereum* and winter-flowering heaths are most attractive. One of the striking features of the exhibit is the fine vista that has been obtained in the planning of the garden by bringing in a stream from one corner and allowing it to fall by gradual levels to the central lily pool.

A substantial pergola on stone piers with oak roof timbers clothed with climbing roses forms the chief feature of Messrs. Cheal's exhibit. In the forefront is a pleasant little paved rose garden with beds of polyantha roses and a small square lily pool as a central feature. The exhibit shows the suitability of the polyantha roses for bedding purposes, and the varieties used should be noted. These are *Lady Reading*, *Ellen Poulsen*, *Mrs. W. Cutbush* and *Louise Walter*. The scale of the garden is good, but is a little out of proportion to the majestic background pergola. The surrounding raised beds are filled with a wealth of flowering shrubs and trees, among which can be seen wisterias, rhododendrons and azaleas, standard brooms and cherries, lilacs and magnolias. Many evergreens are introduced and also are used in an effective background.

Messrs. Carters of Raynes Park have constructed a hillside and stream garden combining many of the features that have characterised many former exhibits on the same site. It indicates to those who are possessed of a similar piece of ground how it might be utilised to advantage. At the top of the hillside is a stone colonnade surrounding a terrace which forms the viewpoint, while in the foreground is a splashing fountain which feeds a pool on a lower level. This is reached by curved steps from the upper garden and is flanked by beds of early-flowering shrubs and trees, including *Prunus triloba*, *Pyrus Malus*, *Viburnum Carlesii*, rhododendrons and azaleas. In the immediate forefront is a stretch of lawn broken with beds of hyacinths and King Alfred daffodils with an edging of tulips. The two beds of *Dicentra spectabilis* are particularly effective in the background.

The formal circular garden of Messrs. Luff and Sons is most imposing with its three entrances with wrought-iron gateways. A central lily pool with fountain acts as the focus point, and surrounding this is a circular lawn broken by three beds filled with pink and blue hyacinths. From the pool three stone paths radiate outwards to each of the entrances, while the enclosing terraces contain a circular bed planted with hybrid rhododendrons, azaleas, lilacs, wisterias and standard cherries.

Mr. George Whitelegg has constructed a small formal garden showing how best the house surround can be treated. As such it is particularly effective. From the terrace which forms the background spring concealed steps



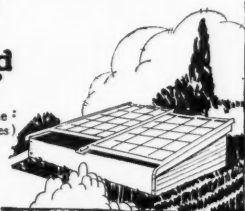
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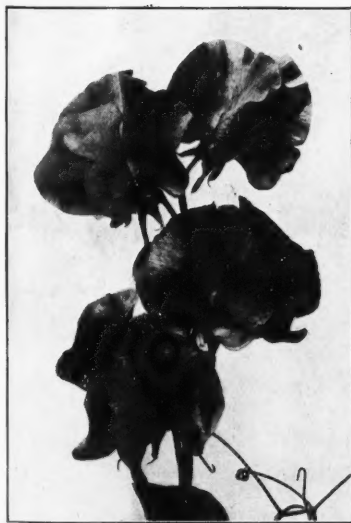
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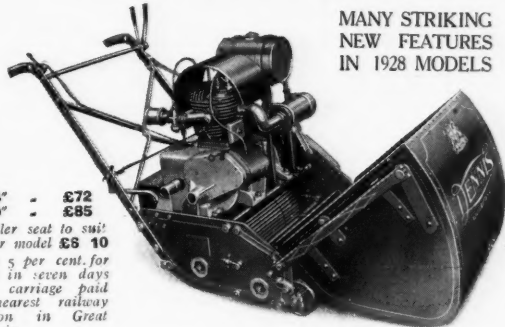


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on each side leading down to a central paved portion with two pools. On each side in raised beds with dry walling a fine collection of flowering shrubs is laid out, illustrating the use and beauty of many of the varieties of azaleas of the mollis and sinensis strains. Magnolias, the early-flowering Viburnum Carlesii, lilacs and wistarias also contribute to the colour display of this attractive garden.

Close by are two special gardens, one devoted to carnations laid out and planted by Messrs. Allwood Brothers, in which is to be seen a wide selection of the best varieties of perpetual-flowering carnations and hardy border kinds, including the Allwoodii, and the other, a terrace garden of violets planned by Mr. Baldwin Pinney. In the carnation garden the value of the new Allwoodii alpinus is clearly demonstrated for dry wall planting and decoration, while one notes the different uses to which the hardy Allwoodii varieties can be put for paving, for the rock garden and for border planting. The gnome garden of Messrs. Burton Holt, Limited, is of more general than garden interest, and should excite the admiration and wonder of younger gardening enthusiasts. Messrs. L. R. Russell's exhibit illustrates the variety and beauty of flowering shrubs now at the disposal of the gardener for spring and early summer decoration. A selection of clematis varieties is shown for covering trellis-work and pergolas, while examples of small rockeries and paving furnished with choice alpine are also a feature of the exhibit.

Messrs. Wallace's "Garden of Rest" is a pleasant little retreat laid out on simple yet dignified lines. The central lawn, with surrounding beds of shrubs and flowers, stretches out from an oak garden shelter furnished with seats. To the right is a small rock pool with a rockery beyond showing the skilful planting that one has come to associate with this firm's designs. It is more of a true garden than some of the more imposing displays, although it may not take the eye in the same way. The sunk garden arranged by Messrs. Central Garden Supplies is of a practical design. The ground plan consists of a diamond-shaped central bed with angular beds at the corners. Surrounding the sunk portion are low walls enclosing raised beds

planted with many hardy ornamental flowering trees and shrubs. A well furnished effect has been obtained by the free use of evergreens. In the front of the exhibit a small rock garden has been constructed furnished with a large collection of alpine in flower relieved by dwarf rock garden shrubs.

Severity of treatment and simplicity in design are shown to advantage in the old Dutch topiary garden laid out by Mr. John Klinkert, in which is demonstrated the proper application of topiary work in garden planning. A wide selection of specimens in topiary work in yew and box is shown. The rock garden of Messrs. Skelton and Kirby arranged a round a natural pool is simple and attractive in design. The pool forms the central feature, while three paths radiate outwards. Two are paved and lead through the rockery, while the third, consisting of stepping stones, leads one over a bank planted with early-flowering heaths. It is certainly a type of garden adaptable to any position and to limited space.

The two rock and water gardens, one constructed by the Orpington Nurseries, Limited, and the other by the Country Service Association, form pleasant and effective garden pictures. In both cases the design is simple, introducing a sloping grassy bank with a falling stream trickling into a pool at the lowest level. There is restraint in planting in the two gardens. Full use is made of early-flowering heaths, while birches and larches and evergreen conifers are introduced effectively as backgrounds. The one incongruous note in the rock garden of the Country Service Association is the group of *Primula malacoides*. The cactus garden arranged by this firm strikes a novel note and merits the inspection of those interested in this particular group of plants.

Apart from the gardens in the Annexe, the various exhibits of garden sundries, including lawn mowers, fertilisers, ornaments, furniture, etc., are well worth the attention of every garden lover. At this time of the year, when the gardening season lies ahead, it is as well to make sure of one's requirements, and an inspection of these stands will greatly assist in the selection of material.

G. C. T.

PRIMULAS AND CYCLAMENS FOR GREENHOUSE DECORATION

AT this time of the year, when the world and his wife are on the move in response to the urge of the season and lengthening days, it seems fitting to call attention to the importance of including visits to nurseries and gardens in one's travels abroad. I was reminded of this only a few days ago when I had occasion to visit the trial grounds of Messrs. Sutton and Sons at Reading. Every year Messrs. Suttons grow a particularly fine collection of primulas and cyclamens at this time, not so much from the point of view of attracting visitors to their grounds, although these are welcomed, but from the strictly cultural standpoint of collecting seed for future distribution. But this year the display is magnificent. My visit chanced to coincide with the height of the flowering season, and seldom, if ever, have I seen greenhouses in the late winter with such a gorgeous display of colour and bloom. Visitors to the last few shows of the Royal Horticultural Society at Vincent Square have had a glimpse of what the greenhouses at Reading contain by the fine exhibits of primulas and cyclamens that Messrs. Suttons have staged, but these are but a shadow of the collection.

It is certain that there is no more satisfactory way of stocking one's garden and greenhouses than by paying personal visits to different nurseries, if one has the time available, and afterwards making a selection from first-hand knowledge. One can see a plant, approve of its merits or demerits, and decide whether or not it is one for one's own garden. The result in the end is much more satisfactory than relying on a list chosen from a catalogue. It is one of the present trends in the development of horticulture that all large nurserymen and seedsmen welcome gardeners to their establishments, and it is certainly an advantage to the garden owner to enter into this spirit of co-operation. It is true that through the excellent medium of horticultural shows and floral exhibits the nursery and seed trades bring their wares to the notice of the general body of gardeners for their approval; but, while

this is satisfactory up to a point, the best way, and the way which all our leading firms appreciate much more, is for the gardener to visit their grounds and see the plants growing *in situ*. Then, and only then, will the increasing body of amateurs realise the important part our horticultural firms play in the general development and improvement of gardening in this country.

This is not a eulogy of the horticultural trade. They, if I may say so, have their failures as well as their successes; but, like the keen experimenting gardener, they learn by their mistakes and pass on their knowledge to their lesser *confrères* in the gardening art. At Messrs. Suttons, the result of many years' diligent effort and research into the culture and development of primulas and cyclamens is clearly shown by the very fine display in their greenhouses. Looking round the stages in their houses, a perfect array of flower greets the visitor, plants all perfect in habit of growth, form of flower and colour. But it is well to bear in mind that perfection has not been reached in one season, nor yet in two; it has taken many. In cyclamens alone, hundreds of plants were on view in colour shades to satisfy even the connoisseur. In a remarkably short time the cyclamen has proved itself to be a flower pre-eminent for winter decoration in the greenhouse, and to appreciate

its true beauty one must see it grown in large numbers—one bank of one variety against a group of another. This method of staging has another use, in that it enables the visitor to compare and contrast individual sorts. In recent years the cyclamen has been improved enormously, largely through the efforts of two or three firms who specialise in their culture, and in this connection I single out the names of Messrs. Suttons and Messrs. Blackmore and Langdon of Bath. I think I am correct in saying that it is to the former that we owe the introduction of the fine salmon shades that are now obtainable and which have brought such a marked revolution in the popularity of the plant; while the latter firm has greatly assisted in the perfection of the habit of the plant and size



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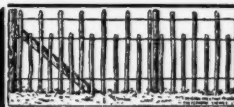
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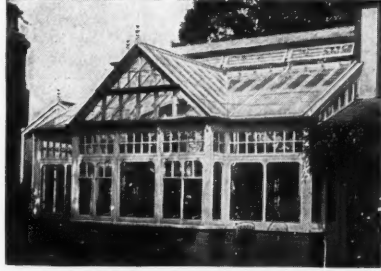
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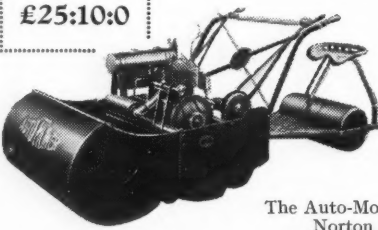
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of flower and purity of colour. From among the many varieties that were on view at Messrs. Suttons I singled out a few which, to my mind, were particularly fine, and I give my list for what it is worth. The large and handsome pure white flowers of Giant White are probably the ideal in floral beauty—at least, among cyclamens. The habit of the plant is good; the blooms are carried on tall erect stems, and well poised above the decorative, marbled foliage. One does not see the real beauty on a greenhouse shelf; the plant wants to be lower than eye level, so that it is looked down on. This applies also particularly to the delicate pinks and salmons, when the colours of the flowers show up well against the marbling of the leaves. In pinks, salmon and crimson, I noted Giant Shell Pink and Giant Salmon Pink, both of a delicate shade with large flowers and excellent habit; Hydrangea Pink, whose name best describes its rather unique colouring; Giant Sunrise, with petals with a deep crimson base fading off into a rose pink; while in scarlet crimson I liked Giant Cherry Red and the better known Firefly. The latter variety, although over four years old, is one of the best. It looks magnificent in a batch, with its even growth, elegant habit and rich scarlet tones. It makes a fine plant for table decoration. For those gardeners who desire something uncommon, I venture to suggest that they note the frilled varieties, and also those kinds, like White Butterfly, that show a strange placement of the petals. A few weird monstrosities are to be seen in an occasional batch, where things have gone wrong, but these are more food for the mind than for the eye. Two years ago I can recall a cyclamen I saw at Messrs. Suttons, which had all the appearance of a perfect umbrella; but, on enquiry on this visit, I learned that it had disappeared. These monstrosities are but chimeras—here to-day and gone to-morrow—since they do not perpetuate their disfigurement when grown from seed. The plants were all in good heart, robust and healthy, and, on asking how such fine growth was obtained with so few failures, I was informed by the grower in charge, to whom congratulation is due, that a plentiful supply of water was the secret. The cyclamen is a lover of water.

For many years now Messrs. Suttons have been interested in primulas belonging to the greenhouse section, especially two species, *P. sinensis* and *P. obconica*, and latterly *P. malacoides*. Their years of patient work with the plant have given us many fine varieties belonging to the different species, showing a wide and distinctive colour range through whites, pinks, blues and mauves to reds and deep crimson. The star varieties of *P. sinensis*, now dignified by the specific name of *P. stellata*, are most attractive, with their lax habit and star-eyed blossoms; while the enormous giant-flowered varieties are among the most useful plants for a massive greenhouse display. The handsome flowers, larger than the diameter of a half-crown, with close, overlapping petals with a deep contrasting eye, are well carried and sit tight on the neat rosettes of leaves that clothe the base of the pot. Then comes a host of charming single *sinensis* varieties, some pink, others—like Reading Blue and the new Hillside Blue—of a good blue shade, and Etna, of a rich crimson with dark foliage. From that, one passes to *P. obconica* in many fine varieties again showing a wide colour range achieved only in recent years; and then on to the latest developments in *P. malacoides*—a discovery, it should not be forgotten, of Mr. George Forrest. Although only introduced a few years ago, this species has already established itself as a general favourite for greenhouse decoration, and it is worthy of it. Some of the newer varieties, like White Queen, a pure white form; Pink Beauty, of a deeper pink than the type; Advance, more floriferous and of sturdier habit than the true species; and the latest arrival, Dwarf Eclipse, with flowers much larger than the type and of a deep lavender pink carried on vigorous flower stems that are seldom over a foot in height. It is an elegant plant, and, while it may be rightly regarded as an improvement on the type from the standpoint of greenhouse decoration, we should not continue to develop size of flower and a squat habit at the expense of the light grace and feathery appearance that characterise the original *P. malacoides*. Intensive development is all right up to a point, but sometimes the end is too far away from the starting post, and therein we lose what is best in a plant in a vain quest for something that is out of character with the plant. The display of varieties of *P. malacoides* is most impressive, and altogether there are now some eight varieties, including the type plant. From the numbers it would seem that we have attained every variety in form and colour that is possible, bearing in mind the original habit and general characteristics of the type species. It is a plant for every gardener who has a greenhouse; and to Mr. George Forrest, and to firms like Messrs. Suttons, who have taken hold of it and endeavoured to improve upon it, the thanks of all gardeners are due. It is, without doubt, one of the finest plants to reach this country from China in recent years.

When looking over a display such as I have attempted to describe, even if an enthusiastic gardener, one may be afflicted with horticultural indigestion, and as a preventive I suggest that notes may be taken while going round, and consulted at leisure. Particulars of varieties and culture can be taken, for questions are only too willingly answered; provided one is really interested, a great deal can be gleaned from a visit. It should be the aim of all gardeners to pay visits to several nurseries this year and see those plants in which they are interested. They will both enjoy and learn from these visits—which, after all, must be regarded as part and parcel of one's gardening education.

T.

WISLEY ROSE TRIALS.

THE Council of the Royal Horticultural Society desires to remind raisers of new varieties of roses that six plants of each variety for trial should reach the Director, R.H.S. Gardens, Wisley, Ripley, Surrey (railway station, Horsley, Southern Railway), on or before March 31st. The necessary entry forms may be obtained on application to him. This trial of roses for garden decoration is now in its sixth year, and it has received many acquisitions each season, so that many hundred varieties are now represented in it, originated in almost every country where roses are prized for their beauty as garden plants. This trial is not intended to test roses for exhibition purposes.

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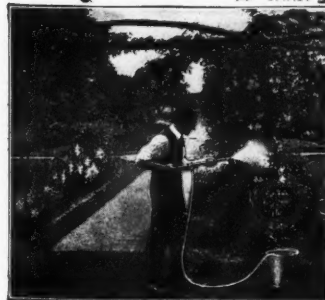
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WERE ever sports clothes so important as they are now? Did women, in days gone by, discuss tennis frocks with quite the eagerness they do nowadays in their seats at Wimbledon, or find—whatever their ages—that something in the nature of sports wear is just what they cannot do without? And did dressmakers, both French and English, devote to it the concentration and attention, lit up by flashes of inspiration, that they do in the present era?

Certainly it has grown more elaborate—or, perhaps, one ought to say more *thought out* in detail—than it once was, without losing an atom of its practical efficiency. There is form in it and colour as well, and, as regards the latter, I was particularly charmed with the new sports coats which I have been turning over in those wonderful showrooms at Liberty's, where you seem to smell the wood fires of India, and see in imagination the caravans of the Arabs and the mosques and minarets of the East gleaming in the sun.

BRIGHT COLOURS.

The short, loose coats of Assam cotton—such as our artist has sketched—to slip on over the tennis frock, or even to wear on the golf course, are delightful, and one can find them at Liberty's in many colours—rich tangerine tones, red, blue, ochre and what not, the combinations being always attractive and always becoming. They are very light and comfortable, and are rapidly gaining favour. Then there are the coats in blanket wool for the same purpose, embroidered in thick wools, some in cross-stitch, some in blanket-stitch and some interwoven with tinsel threads. Even if you do not indulge in sport, they are just the thing to have at hand to wear in the garden when the dew is beginning to fall and the shadows are lengthening.

There is colour, too—refreshing and delightful colour—in the sports wear at the Shetland Industries, 92, George Street, Portman Square.

What we owe to Shetland and her industries it would be hard to say! In any case, the very word is the guarantee of



Two invaluable sports jumpers; on the right is one in soft brown wool and tartan (The Shetland Industries), and, on the left, one in silver grey silk and wool (The Maison Ross).

all that is of the best where wool is concerned, and I was delighted with the jumpers trimmed with tartan bands at the neck, hem and sleeves, as in the case of the example sketched, which is a natural brown brightened with red, yellow and green tartan. The bright colour against the background of soft brown is a most satisfying finish.

The touch of silver and gold thread in the sports suit has not yet been abandoned, and I very much doubt whether it will be for a long time to come. But it is introduced very subtly and is, perhaps, at its most charming when the silk and tinsel are woven together so that fugitive gleams of the metal threads are all one sees. An ideal sports suit that I examined at the Maison Ross, 19, Grafton Street—who, by the way, are responsible for the charming little jumper illustrated in silver grey silk and wool, with an open check in a darker grey, and a snow white wool edging at the neck as well as cuffs—was in these two component parts, the colour scheme a pale—very pale—tone of beige, shading up to a rather deep grey, the shading being in the form of wide bands. On one side was a decoration which had all the effect of a monogram without actually being one—carried out in black and silver metal; while the woven silver threads of the jumper gleamed here and there like trapped starlight. The whole was completed by a narrow black suede belt with a Cubist silver clasp and a black knitted skirt. The low tones of grey in alliance with the black and lit up by the silver, were very charming and restrained, and I pictured a golf coat of burnt orange or wine colour as a finish to the whole.

"LE DERNIER CRI."

But if one wants the very newest thing in fashionable sports wear—which I also saw in these showrooms—one should not be content without a camel's-hair jumper, with a skirt either of cloth or camel's-hair to match. Although costly at present, the softness of these most delectable little garments is quite indescribable, the feel of the woven camel's-hair being only comparable to the touch of a rose petal when one passes one's finger over it. It is carried out in the natural shade—a pale sand—with coloured trimming inserted in bands; and anything more exquisitely comfortable it would be hard to find.

FOR THE TENNIS COURTS.

The charm of the new tennis frocks is so great that they are calculated to manufacture tennis enthusiasts out of a mere desire to wear them. In spite of their apparent simplicity, they are so cleverly spliced and finished that, when carried out by a master hand, they are quite irresistible. The little frock in pale cyclamen pink which has been made by Madame Barri, 33, New Bond Street, W., is a case in point. It is designed in washing crêpe de Chine, than which there is no better material for the purpose, and the arrangement of shallow scallops is its



On the right is a golf suit in West of England tweed and stockinette (Marshall and Snelgrove), and on the left is one of the new coats of Assam cotton (Liberty's).

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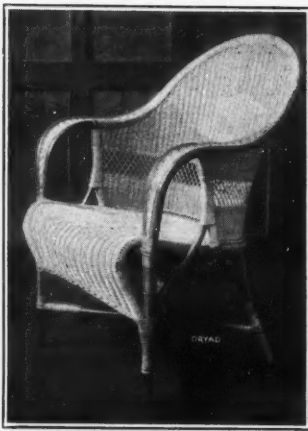
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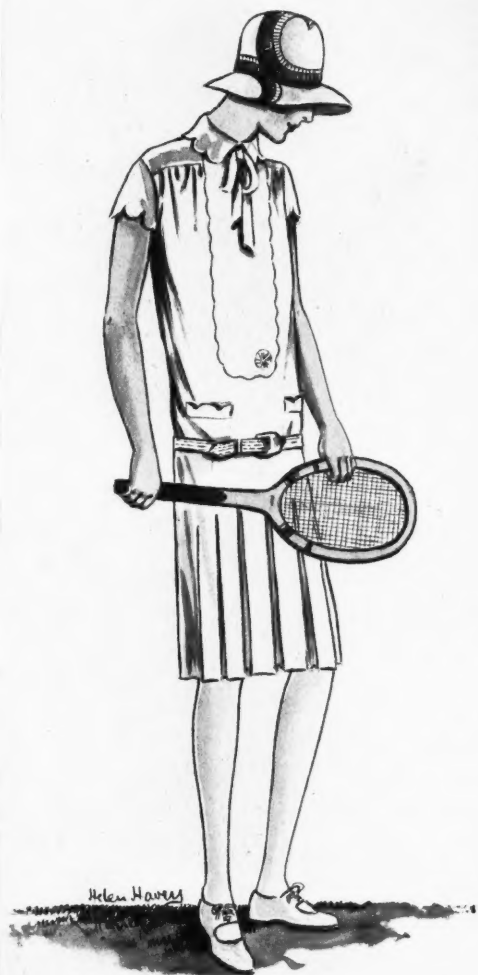
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only decoration, except for the little pockets, the scalloped "bib" and the tiny monogram worked in white on one side. It is finished by an ivory Bangkok hat, trimmed with narrow bands of petersham ribbon in tangerine, lily-leaf green and black—one of those attractive hats with shady brims which are just coming back to favour and are going to add 100 per cent. to the becomingness of our summer wear and gradually oust the close brimless felt. I noticed, also, in the same showrooms, another delicious little tennis frock in foam white crêpe de Chine, likewise monogrammed, and made with the godet skirt, which is extraordinarily graceful when the wearer is moving.

A "HACKING" HABIT.

But one cannot go so far in an article of this kind without saying at least a word about riding. Mr. Thomas, 6, Brook Street, W., is always an authority in the matter of riding, and our sketch shows one of his neat and workmanlike habits for hacking, which are invariably an object lesson on what should be worn. It is carried out in leaf-brown homespun, with chrome-coloured breeches of cavalry twill just a trifle lighter than the coat, which latter is fastened with two buttons. Mr. Thomas



An attractive tennis frock of washing crêpe de Chine (Madame Barri).

makes a great many habits, too, for the tropics, using the sun-resisting fabrics which are such a comfort in hot countries. Pale shades of brown and fawn are chiefly seen for these, the inner side of the cloth being of the sun-resisting red.

THE POPULAR CARDIGAN.

But to return to the subject of sports suits, I notice that the sleeveless cardigan has still a secure hold on our affections. Marshall and Snelgrove, Oxford Street, have a splendid range of sports suits of all descriptions, and the one sketched, which is a very typical example, is carried out in a checked West of England cloth and stockinette, with a jumper strapped with the cloth and a cardigan to match. The colour is a soft tobacco brown, which is still a wonderfully fashionable tone, perhaps because it suits us all alike, and this particular suit is invaluable, for the reason that it is as useful for a morning walk or shopping as it would be for sport.

Nearly everyone seems anxious to have a leather coat nowadays. My affections are much set on those which are lined with a rather coarse striped hopsack and which are about three-quarter length, having plain pleated skirts of hopsack to match.

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The leather is in any and every shade, and the beauty of colouring and softness of some of these Nappa coats make one almost forget the time when a leather coat meant something so thick and hard that only the woman who intended to spend long hours in her car would have dreamt of wearing one. The natural accompaniment of a leather coat and hopsack skirt would be a jumper which matched the main colour of the hopsack and was adorned with leather strappings.

KATHLEEN M. BARROW.

A Woman's Notebook.

There could be no two opinions concerning the immense success of the dress show which was given by the Maison Arthur, Limited, 17 and 18, Dover Street, at the Hotel Cecil last week. In an effective setting of palms and flowers with small tea tables—four or five deep—set down either side of a centre aisle in the Palm Court and adjoining *salon*, and to the music of a couple of orchestras, the mannequins in their beautiful gowns followed each other from the stage through the rooms in a continuous and perfectly regulated stream from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. When, at the end, the orchestra struck up the Wedding March and a white-robed bride, attended by a couple of *filles d'honneur* in blue and pink, swept slowly between the tables there was a burst of applause, which testified not only to the general approval of this particular feature, but of all that had gone before. The show commenced with morning and sports attire, and progressed to a series of lovely evening gowns which it would be hard indeed to excel. Among the two and three piece suits, green—especially almond and lime—was much in evidence, but navy blue was unquestionably the leading colour and appeared in many different alliances, one of which was a long navy blue *moiré* coat lined with white and blue ring-patterned crepe de Chine and worn over a frock of the latter. This fashion for lining the coats with the same patterned silk as the frocks was one of the outstanding features, while others of equal importance among the new gowns exhibited were the lingerie collar



One of the latest spring habits for hacking, in leaf brown homespun, with cavalry twill breeches. (Thomas and Son).

in cream or snow white and in a variety of different forms, the high waistline, the shawl-pointed scarf carelessly knotted over the corsage, the close tucks and flounces, flat, bias and spoon-shaped, the yoked corsage and hats of ciré or Chinese straw, not to speak of the hat of horsehair or the tiny veil which, in some instances, spread out into Dutch lappets.

Among the evening gowns I noticed a wonderful geranium-coloured silk which was drawn to the back, where the folds were bunched into an immense butterfly bow, the front having a glittering diamond spray embroidered upon it. Oriental effects were popular, and the uneven hem added considerably to the length of the skirts, but often only at the side. In the case of gowns of black taffetas covered with voluminous veilings of black tulle muslin, the latter reached almost to the ankles but left the scalloped skirt foundation clearly visible through their transparencies, while another black gown had long fan-shaped pleated points back and front.

Every woman should send for a catalogue from Debenham and Freebody's, Wigmore Street, or rather for the series of spring brochures which has now been issued by the firm. I specially recommend the book of Milanese stockinette and knitted garments, which have been photographed on living models so that one actually sees what they look like when worn. The woman with "out size" figure has not been forgotten, and some extraordinarily graceful models have been designed for her. Another charming little booklet shows the new spring millinery, likewise priced, while another is devoted to the needs of the nursery people.

I have been studying a little folder containing illustrations and patterns of the ready-to-wear dresses at Liberty's, Regent Street, which are carried out in *Yoru* crape and hand-printed Tyrian silk. Both these materials are ideal for summer wear at home or abroad, the colours in the *Yoru* crape covering a wide and lovely range, while the dainty and exquisite patterns of the silk should be seen to be appreciated at their full worth. The former frocks, prettily embroidered with flax thread, are priced at 42s., and the Tyrian silks, piped with plain silks and most attractively made, are offered at 94s 6d. They certainly should not be missed.



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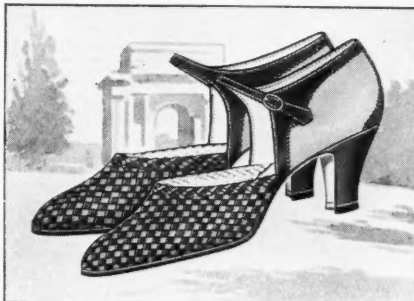
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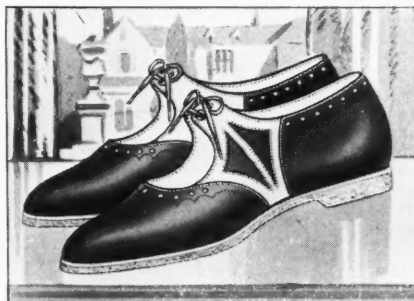
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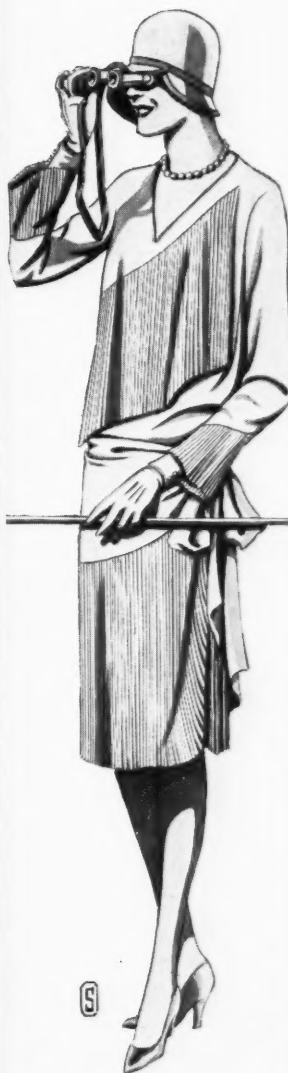


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All communications should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager "COUNTRY LIFE," Southampton Street, Strand, London.

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IRISH PLAIN LINEN PILLOW-CASES.—Real good quality. Highly recommended. Size 20 by 30in., four for 12/6. Hemstitched linen pillow-cases, real good quality, 20 by 30in., two for 10/6. Complete Bargain List Free.—HUTTON'S, 10, Main Street, Larne, Ulster.

BIRDS' BATHS.—Garden Vases, Sundials; catalogue (No. 2), free.—MOORTON, 17, Eccleston Street, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. 1.

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Catalogues on application. ROWLAND BROS., Bletchley, Etab. 1874. London Showrooms: 40-42, Oxford St., W.

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